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ABSTRACT

The Kids Count Data Book examines trends in the well-being of Kansas children. This statistical portrait is based on trends in 22 indicators of child well-being, grouped into 5 areas: (1) economic well-being--births to single teens, child poverty rates, free school meals, and family economic assistance; (2) physical health and safety--childhood deaths, infant mortality, early prenatal care, immunization rates, and low birth-weight infants; (3) childhood care and education--Head Start participation, child care availability, high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education and training, births to mothers with less than a high school degree, and high school graduation rates; (4) emotional well-being--out-of-home placement, teen violent deaths, and reported and substantiated child abuse and neglect; and (5) social behavior and social control--juvenile court filings, youth alcohol use and binge drinking, and youth who have ever used drugs other than alcohol. Following an executive summary, Section 1 of the report discusses welfare reform in Kansas and makes recommendations for strengthening the safety net for families no longer receiving welfare services. Section 2 consists of tables detailing findings for each indicator by county and statewide. Section 3, the bulk of the report, presents statistics for each county, a graphic and narrative description of trends, and demographic information. Among the findings, the data book shows significant improvement in immunization rates, infant mortality, childhood death, teen violent death rates, youth drug use, and Head Start participation. Concerns were evident in reports and substantiations of child abuse or neglect, juvenile court filings, childhood

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poverty rates, and low birth-weight infants. Information on data sources is appended. (KB)

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Kansas Action for Children, Inc.
715 SW 10th Street
Topeka, Kansas 66612
(785) 232-0550 Fax: (785) 232-0699
www.kac.org.

Sources for the data used in this book are listed on page 163-164.
These sources remain the final authority regarding the quality and meaning of the data.

Our Work

Kansas Action for Children is a private, not-for-profit, citizen-based corporation founded in 1979. We work on behalf of all children to ensure that their physical and emotional needs are met and that they become healthy and contributing adults.

- We *paint the picture* of Kansas children by gathering and publicizing information on child well-being through the *Kansas Children's Report Card*, the *KANSAS KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK*, and special reports.

- We *advance alternatives* by developing state policy that is family and child friendly. Over the years, programs related to early childhood development, teen pregnancy, preventive health care, citizens review boards, and services to children in troubled families have stemmed from our work.

- We *build the base* of citizen advocacy for children by working with citizens and organizations across the state. We believe that hundreds of citizens speaking out for children can help create communities that support families and children.

1999 KANSAS KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK

KANSAS KIDS COUNT is a partnership of:

Kansas Action for Children, Inc.
Gary Brunk
Executive Director

Robin Lehman
Project Director
KANSAS KIDS COUNT

University of Kansas
Thomas McDonald, Ph.D.
Professor, School of Social Welfare

Tom Gregoire, MSW, Ph.D.
School of Social Welfare

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Sprint®

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KANSAS KIDS COUNT is committed to providing objective, data-driven outcome measurements for determining child well-being in our state. By highlighting state and county trends, we hope to raise public awareness about the plight of vulnerable children and encourage citizen action.

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Kim Moore, *United Methodist Health Ministry Fund, Hutchinson*
Melissa Ness, *Kansas Children's Service League, Topeka*
Carol Rupe, *Wichita*
Jennie Tashett, *Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Chronic Disease and Health Promotion, Topeka*

KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Sources

Glenn Adamson, *Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, Administrative Services Commission*
Leigh Barrett, *Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, Commission of Children and Family Services*
Thelma Helyar, *University of Kansas, Institute of Public Policy and Business Research*
Patty Martin, *Southeast Kansas Education Service Center*
Steve McAtee, *Kansas Department of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services*
Corinne Miller, *Kansas Department of Health and Environment*
Randy Otting, *Kansas State Board of Education*
Tom Reck, *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*
Christine Ross-Baze, *Kansas Department of Health and Environment*
Nanette Roubideaux, *Native American Services*
Lue Ann Snider, *Kansas State Board of Education*
Carla Rowley, *Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, Office Specialist*
Elizabeth Saadi, *Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Office of Health Care Information*
Amy Waddell, *Supreme Court of Kansas, Office of Judicial Administration*

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *1999 KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* provides state and county data on 22 indicators of the well-being of children and families in Kansas. These indicators reflect five different areas of functioning: economic well-being, physical health and safety, childhood care and education, emotional well-being, and social behavior and control. By highlighting state and county trends, we hope to raise public awareness about the plight of vulnerable children and encourage citizen action.

As with last year's data book, the *1999 KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* shows improvement in some indicators but others continuing to worsen:

Measures Showing Significant Improvement

- The percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age two improved dramatically in 1997. Compared to the previous five-year period, Kansas celebrated a 23-percent improvement in 1997. All but two counties (Lincoln and Stanton) showed an increase. The remarkable improvement in the percentage of Kansas' kindergartners who were fully immunized by the age of two places the state closer to achieving the country's Healthy People 2000 objective of 90-percent immunization of all two-year-olds.
- Declining infant mortality, childhood death and teen violent death rates were also indicative of improvements in physical health and safety for Kansas' kids.
- Among children in grades six, eight, ten, and 12 who participated in the survey, 11 percent reported at least one use of drugs in their lifetime. This figure is a substantial reduction from the 17-percent base rate and is certainly very positive news. However, we caution that shifts in patterns of survey participation may account for some changes in reported use.
- Head Start was available for more eligible children in Kansas in 1998 than at any time over the past ten years. The Head Start combination of direct intensive services to children and referrals to supplemental services reflect the best research and evaluation of how to achieve effective and long-term results for children and their families.

Measures Remaining Steady

- All measures of educational achievement remained relatively steady.
- The percent of mothers receiving early prenatal care continued to hover around 85 percent.
- Out-of-home placement rates remained steady.

Measures That Are Deteriorating

- Reports and substantiations of child abuse or neglect are up dramatically in the state. To the extent that these increases reflect greater family dysfunction and harm to children, we must be concerned with enhancing efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect and support families. In part, the increase in substantiated reports reflects changes in the state's definitions and policies that we believe will ultimately be positive in that the response to child abuse and neglect will be strengthened.
- Juvenile court filings are up in Kansas. Both the behavior of youth and the community's tolerance for and response to deviant behavior affect this measure. The wide variance in this measure and its trends across different counties combined with the wide variety of juvenile offenses captured in this measure call for more local analysis and search for appropriate responses.
- Reductions in childhood poverty are not being achieved despite a sustained period of economic growth in the state.
- In 1997, 6.9 percent of Kansas births were low-birth-weight babies, compared to 6.1 percent in1985. This 13-percent increase means an even greater percentage of babies are predisposed to a variety of neuro-developmental disorders as well as weaker health conditions and negative cognitive outcomes.

What You Can Do

The measures showing significant improvement are cause for celebration, but we must not lose sight of the measures that are deteriorating. Awareness of the negative trends in those indicators provides us with the opportunity to make a difference in our own communities, as well as at the statewide level. Use the KIDS COUNT data to gain a better understanding of the specific issues affecting your county and join with others who have similar concerns. Determine your community's strengths and needs and become involved with changing public policy to respond positively to the data. Get to know your legislators and communicate your concerns to them; monitor the progress of legislation that affects children and families in Kansas.

Contact Kansas Action for Children at (785) 232-0550 to be placed on the legislative update list (sent via e-mail, or by fax if e-mail is not available). For more information on children's issues, visit the Kansas Action for Children website at **www.kac.org.**

Do your part to make KIDS COUNT in Kansas!

CHILDREN OF WELFARE REFORM: IS THERE A SAFETY NET?

Does Kansas still have a safety net for our most vulnerable children? Has Kansas reformed welfare in ways that enhance the economic self-sufficiency of families and the well-being of children, or are we turning our backs on poor children? The truth is that we do not have good data to tell us what is happening to the children of families who are no longer on public assistance. What we do know is that two-thirds of all cash public assistance clients are children, and more than 23,000 Kansas children lost their cash assistance from 1996 to 1998.

The Historical Children's Safety Net. The concept of a safety net to catch the most vulnerable citizens in times of genuine need and provide for basic needs and physical safety has been accepted public policy for decades. With regard to children, that safety net has historically been made up of two distinct systems.

The first system deals with the needs of children at risk of abuse or neglect and has traditionally been referred to as the "child welfare system." Four distinct functions make up the Kansas child welfare system: the investigation of allegations of child abuse and neglect, or child protective services; family preservation services; foster care programs; and adoption services.

The second system is the group of public entitlement programs designed to address the needs of children at risk of extreme poverty. This second group includes traditional public assistance programs of cash assistance, food stamps, medical assistance, and child care programs, all of which are based on income eligibility.

Together, the child welfare system and the historic system of public entitlements wove a web of support and safety for vulnerable children. That safety net not only attempted to protect children from physical harm but also from limitations on their growth, development, and potential life success related to their poverty status, particularly during the first three years of life.

Recent Reforms. Over the past two years, Kansas has made dramatic changes in both sides of the safety net for vulnerable children. In the child welfare system, family preservation, foster care, and adoption services have been privatized and a managed care tool known as "case rates" has been instituted. Of the four child welfare functions, only child protective services remains a state-operated function.[1]

Here we examine only the second child safety net system and how changes in those entitlement programs may affect children in Kansas. The federal law defining the second system and its primary component, the cash assistance program, changed dramatically under federal welfare reform legislation enacted in 1996. That federal law, known as The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, ended our nation's 60-year-old guarantee of public assistance for America's lowest-income children and families.

The cash assistance program under the new federal welfare law is known as Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), shortened to TAF in Kansas. The TAF program is defined by work requirements, time limits, enhanced child support enforcement, and the promise of enhanced supports to aid welfare recipients in the transition from public assistance to gainful employment. As opposed to the old program of cash assistance (AFDC), which promised an unending entitlement to all families and children meeting income eligibility requirements, the new cash assistance program (TAF) provides cash assistance for a limited period of time only for those families with an adult willing to meet the work requirements.

Kansas Welfare Reform: Two Years Later. Recent news stories marked the two-year anniversary of the implementation of welfare reform. As evidence of success, state officials cite the volume of participants denied assistance or dropped off the cash assistance rolls under the new program eligibility standards and guidelines. However, of the 33,185 fewer Kansans that were on the state's cash assistance rolls in July 1998 than in July 1996, two-thirds—23,212—were children.[2]

What does welfare reform success mean from a child's perspective? The answer to that question will not be found in the reduced number of participants in cash assistance programs. For children, welfare reform success means that their families are moving off cash assistance and into the economic mainstream because a parent is consistently employed at a decent wage that can adequately provide for all the needs of the family.

Do the 23,212 children no longer eligible for the new cash assistance program meet that standard of success? Are they living in families whose income is sufficient to provide for basic needs, including food, shelter, clothing, health insurance and transportation? Are they safe from physical harm? We simply do not know because during the first two years of welfare reform the Kansas

Department of Social & Rehabilitation Services did not have tracking mechanisms in place to tell us whether these 23,212 children are better or worse off now than when their families were receiving cash assistance.

Child Poverty Indicators. The overall impact of welfare reform must be measured in broader terms than simply how many people are no longer welfare clients. We must look to general child poverty indicators to determine if the children of reform, both those moved off assistance and those who will be denied future assistance due to tighter program restrictions, have been placed at greater risk of poverty and its negative impacts.

The 1990 U. S. census identified 14.5 percent of (or 73,694) Kansas children living in poverty. The national KIDS COUNT project, which reports data each year for individual states as well as for the nation, shows childhood poverty rising in Kansas to 16 percent by 1994. Any potential impacts of welfare reform initiatives on state child poverty rates may not be clearly visible until the year 2000 census.

Until then, data regarding eligibility and approval for free school lunches are the most encompassing measure of childhood poverty available. Children who are eligible for free lunches live in families with income no greater than 130 percent of the federal poverty standard.[3] In the 1996 school year, nearly 25 percent of Kansas school children, or 118,921 students, were approved for free lunches. The number rose to 119,664 in the 1997 school year. By March of 1998, the number dropped slightly to 117,565.[4] This measure of childhood poverty should be watched for developing trends.

Additional Indicators. A look at other public assistance programs indicates that the families of the 23,212 children falling off cash assistance are not accessing supports that may be essential for their health and economic well-being. SRS statistics for the same July 1996 to July 1998 comparisons for measures of participation before and after welfare reform reveal the following program changes:

Children on cash assistance	↓ 23,212
Children on food stamps	↓ 30,398[5]
Children on medical assistance	↓ 11,279
Children receiving child care subsidy	↑ 929

Many of the families no longer receiving cash assistance are probably eligible for non-cash assistance such as food stamps, medical assistance, and child care subsidies. The drop in users of non-cash assistance may indicate these families are not aware of their eligibility for these supports.

Poverty and Early Childhood. We now know that by age three a child's brain has achieved 90 percent of total growth and that a child's environment plays a key role in the development of his or her brain. In addition, we know that optimal early childhood brain development depends on (1) early, quality prenatal care; (2) positive, age-appropriate stimulation from birth; and (3) the opportunity to develop warm and loving relationships.[6] Early childhood also appears to be the stage in which family economic conditions matter the most. Research has proven that poverty adversely affects cognitive and behavioral development and thereby reduces opportunities for success and happiness in adulthood.[7] Poverty in early childhood may have a more important effect on child development and may have more long-lasting effects on child development than poverty occurring later in childhood. In early childhood, mental ability, personality, and physical development are most malleable.[8]

The importance of early childhood helps to focus attention on a critical policy issue for Kansas: Should there be a safety net for vulnerable families with children? We believe that welfare reform will succeed only if there is a safety net for families with children. If we turn our backs on the most vulnerable families, we may continue to "succeed" in further reductions in the numbers of persons on cash assistance. We will not succeed in the long run because as a society we will reap the consequences of a generation of children growing up in poverty.

The question remains: What has happened to the children affected by welfare reform? Have they fallen out of the economic side of the safety net and into the child welfare system? Are their families experiencing increased income due to stable employment of the parent at an adequate wage? Have their families fallen off the welfare rolls and deeper into poverty, with the prospect of an even more devastating future for the children? At this point, we simply do not know.

Recommendations for Strengthening the Safety Net. In order for the Kansas welfare reform effort to be truly successful, we must incorporate measures to strengthen the safety net for families moving from welfare to

work so they can achieve economic self-sufficiency. Following are several examples of such measures:

- Kansas needs a *confidential tracking system* that identifies not only existing cash assistance clients but applicants for such assistance. Trends should be analyzed as to the number of and reasons why applicants and clients cycle on and off assistance. Data are already collected for the reasons applicants are denied assistance. In addition, a system for tracking former welfare families is needed to determine if they are achieving economic self-sufficiency, or if they are falling deeper into poverty, to the detriment of their children.

- The *earned income eligibility standard* must be raised. A minimum-wage job for a mother with two children will not fund the basic necessities, but it makes her ineligible for TAF assistance. SRS' own cost-of-living study shows that a three-person family needs $1,173 take-home pay monthly to make ends meet, but the TAF income standard for that family is $745 gross income.

- *Child support* is a vital income support for all families, but especially low-income families. SRS has child support cases for more than 160,000 Kansas children; barely one-half of the current child support is collected. SRS needs adequate staffing to establish timely child support orders and an information system to monitor and update the orders.

- *Quality employment training* is the long-term solution to economic self-sufficiency for families. SRS has adopted the policy that it will not fund such training. If this is not SRS' responsibility, Kansas lawmakers must decide whose charge it is and delegate the responsibility to the appropriate agency along with adequate resources.

A safety net of measures designed to help families become economically self-sufficient is vital if welfare reform is to succeed. We must ensure that Kansas' most vulnerable children are granted every opportunity we can afford them to grow up to be healthy, productive adults.

[1] "Privatization of Child Welfare Services in Kansas: A Child Advocacy Perspective." Kansas Action for Children. Topeka, Kansas. September 1998.

[2] Data Source: SRS comparison of July 1996 monthly count of AFDC recipients with July 1998 monthly count of TAF recipients.

[3] The estimated poverty threshold for 1997 was $12,873 for a family of three and $16,485 for a family of four. The estimates are based on the 1995 U.S. Census Bureau poverty thresholds adjusted for estimated inflation.

[4] September 1998 free lunch statistics were not yet available from the Kansas Department of Education at press time. Counts cited for all three years were obtained in March.

[5] Estimated number based on historical estimates that one-half of the persons on food stamps are children. 165,000 Kansans were on food stamps in July 1996 and 104,204 were on food stamps in July 1998 for a decrease of 60,796 persons. Of that total, roughly half, or 30,398, were children.

[6] "Brain Growth versus Kansas Public Expenditures on Children Ages 0-18." Kansas Action for Children. Topeka, Kansas. 1998.

Duncan, Greg, et. al. How Much Does Childhood Poverty Affect the Life Changes of Children? *American Sociological Review*. 1998 Vol. 63, Pg. 406.

[7] Duncan, Greg. Growing Up Poor: The Effects on Achievement, Parenting and Child Care: A Congressional Breakfast Seminar. May 15, 1998. Consortium of Social Science Associations. Pg. 3.

COUNTY-BY-COUNTY COMPARISON OF NUMBERS OF ADULTS AND CHILDREN ON CASH ASSISTANCE AND FOOD STAMPS BEFORE AND AFTER WELFARE REFORM

	AFDC 1996	TAF 1998	FOOD STAMPS 1996	FOOD STAMPS 1998
ALLEN	420	207	1,346	884
ANDERSON	147	94	562	380
ATCHISON	516	268	1,517	1,109
BARBER	73	46	252	225
BARTON	738	317	2,425	1,475
BOURBON	450	331	1,525	1,213
BROWN	333	173	1,228	717
BUTLER	1,081	558	2,945	2,009
CHASE	73	26	230	121
CHAUTAUQUA	112	80	449	368
CHEROKEE	905	592	2,629	2,322
CHEYENNE	19	17	81	63
CLARK	29	6	85	73
CLAY	150	42	559	383
CLOUD	177	81	585	449
COFFEY	142	82	511	391
COMMANCHE	11	4	52	44
COWLEY	937	525	3,114	2,401
CRAWFORD	1,102	579	3,540	2,893
DECATUR	50	12	118	90
DICKINSON	295	142	999	592
DONIPHAN	240	119	720	588
DOUGLAS	1,637	970	4,293	3,294
EDWARDS	25	40	156	132
ELK	58	58	312	278
ELLIS	363	125	1,379	1,051
ELLSWORTH	74	13	238	191
FINNEY	681	308	2,173	1,221
FORD	643	405	1,829	1,305

	AFDC 1996	TAF 1998	FOOD STAMPS 1996	FOOD STAMPS 1998
FRANKLIN	599	339	1,658	1,383
GEARY	1,115	493	3,486	1,869
GOVE	3	5	41	50
GRAHAM	21	20	112	85
GRANT	163	92	440	262
GRAY	40	24	153	127
GREELEY	15	13	29	28
GREENWOOD	256	171	735	642
HAMILTON	41	36	86	102
HARPER	131	66	492	350
HARVEY	537	232	1,756	1,318
HASKELL	45	38	183	105
HODGEMAN	20	4	46	35
JACKSON	317	123	881	574
JEFFERSON	204	117	774	571
JEWELL	54	32	172	108
JOHNSON	2,118	1,030	5,904	3,713
KEARNY	109	73	288	177
KINGMAN	86	75	413	314
KIOWA	50	9	171	119
LABETTE	803	461	2,303	1,872
LANE	32	5	95	45
LEAVENWORTH	1,331	736	3,469	2,513
LINCOLN	37	14	139	81
LINN	185	107	611	507
LOGAN	49	14	139	92
LYON	814	411	2,701	1,937
MARION	140	67	486	398
MARSHALL	153	81	460	391

	AFDC 1996	TAF 1998	FOOD STAMPS 1996	FOOD STAMPS 1998
MCPHERSON	303	134	927	757
MEADE	24	9	64	48
MIAMI	459	224	1,207	869
MITCHELL	49	6	260	150
MONTGOMERY	1,566	802	4,092	2,771
MORRIS	137	39	424	209
MORTON	25	12	102	124
NEMAHA	55	25	301	186
NEOSHO	443	272	1,474	1,168
NESS	20	8	89	55
NORTON	67	8	244	184
OSAGE	370	167	1,000	780
OSBORNE	60	35	206	193
OTTAWA	102	24	297	151
PAWNEE	86	39	328	357
PHILLIPS	62	25	210	203
POTTAWATOMIE	198	101	846	509
PRATT	147	81	542	439
RAWLINS	13	8	107	80
RENO	1,948	675	5,140	3,743
REPUBLIC	89	42	270	261
RICE	236	77	799	443
RILEY	644	361	2,172	1,271
ROOKS	63	48	282	231
RUSH	66	33	221	180
RUSSELL	170	76	571	437
SALINE	1,060	486	3,478	2,427
SCOTT	30	13	130	87
SEDGWICK	16,541	7,808	38,263	28,193

	AFDC 1996	TAF 1998	FOOD STAMPS 1996	FOOD STAMPS 1998
SEWARD	801	216	1,760	967
SHAWNEE	5,254	3,112	12,724	9,779
SHERIDAN	8	7	56	46
SHERMAN	118	48	366	303
SMITH	37	23	182	168
STAFFORD	109	72	368	284
STANTON	20	9	92	35
STEVENS	78	36	261	166
SUMNER	420	192	1,441	823
THOMAS	94	40	333	273
TREGO	30	15	111	86
WABAUNSEE	74	21	219	103
WALLACE	14	13	51	63
WASHINGTON	89	31	310	212
WICHITA	46	37	136	136
WILSON	248	87	872	582
WOODSON	70	14	280	227
WYANDOTTE	10,234	5,685	19,798	14,169
KANSAS	**63,726**	**32,344**	**167,481**	**108,521**

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Purpose of Kids Count. The *KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* is intended to draw attention to the status of children in Kansas. The goal of *KANSAS KIDS COUNT* is to compile data on indicators of the well-being of the state's children and to use these data to strengthen strategic action on behalf of children. The book provides descriptive information with regard to five areas of child and family functioning: (1) economic conditions, (2) physical health and safety, (3) child care and education, (4) emotional functioning, and (5) social behavior and social control. Statewide and county data are provided on 22 different indicators of child well-being. The book is produced annually with current and retrospective data. By providing these data, the book is expected to motivate and encourage advocacy for children, to inform and therefore to enhance planning, and to assist in evaluating progress toward improving the lives of our children.

Structure of the Book. Around each book we have developed a theme to draw the readers' attention to current issues, research, and policy that impact children in Kansas (see pages 5-9). A narrative overview of the findings of the book is provided in an Executive Summary (page 4). The reader who is interested in a particular area of child well-being (e.g., physical health and safety or child abuse and neglect) will find data organized by indicators in the first part of the book (pages 12-55). If you are interested in a specific geographic area, you will find the data and graphic displays for each county in alphabetical order on pages 58-162. A profile for the entire state on all indicators can be found on page 57.

Selection of Indicators. The selection of data for the annual *Data Book* is an ongoing process. Prior to production of the first book in 1993, the project engaged in an extensive process for selecting indicators, which included reviewing *KIDS COUNT* books and related publications from other states, consultation with national KIDS COUNT staff and consultants, and guidance from two committees of Kansas advisors composed of academics, agency administrators, advocates, funders, judges and members of the state legislature.

It is important to the *KANSAS KIDS COUNT* project that as many indicators as possible reflect "outcomes" for children. We prefer to measure what end result has been achieved for children rather than what activity has occurred or what services children have received. For example, the percent of children in poverty is a preferred measure as an "outcome" for children rather than the percent who receive economic assistance from state agencies, which at times may not reflect the actual need for assistance resulting from living in poverty conditions.

Many times preferred indicators cannot be constructed because data are unavailable or of poor quality. Outcome information is more difficult for agencies to collect, so we are sometimes forced to use the more readily available service provision information. Some data may not be collected annually or may only be available as a statewide measure and not available for individual counties. In all cases we have attempted to obtain the best and most complete data available. When using service data we have attempted to limit our selection of indicators to service programs for which there is some evidence of the effectiveness of the intervention. We have, on several occasions, decided not to use data because of questions regarding the quality of the data. We see as part of the mission of KIDS COUNT the need to draw attention to unavailable and poor-quality data in order to motivate and assist in the improvement of data collection for monitoring the well-being of children in Kansas.

Data Sources. The KIDS COUNT project does not have sufficient resources to engage in primary data collection. Data for the *KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* are compiled by researchers at the University of Kansas, who obtain the data from other agencies and data archives. A full description of these sources is provided on pages 163 and 164. The individuals working in collaborating agencies that have helped to make this effort possible are acknowledged on page two of the *Data Book*.

Calculating Indicator Rates. All indicators are expressed as rates. A rate is the number of times some event occurs divided by the number of possible times it could have occurred. This ratio is typically multiplied by some factor of ten to produce whole numbers rather than a decimal figure. The most common form of a rate is a percentage. For example, the childhood poverty rate is the number of children whose families' income falls below the poverty level, divided by the total number of children in the population, times 100. More simply stated, it is the percent of children in poverty or the number of children in poverty per 100 children in the population.

For many indicators, the incidence of the event of interest occurs much less frequently and a typical rate might be some fraction of a percent. Typically in these cases the rate may be expressed as the number per 1,000 (e.g., infant mortality rate) or even per 100,000 (e.g., childhood death rate). A detailed description of the calculation of each indicator is provided in the Data Notes and Sources section of this book on pages 163 and 164.

Rates are not reported for each indicator in each year for some counties. These missing data result from several sources. Sometimes data were simply not available for certain counties. On several occasions, available data were judged to be of poor quality and were not reported.

For some indicators a county rate might not be calculated because it was judged not to be "meaningful." The last situation arises primarily in counties with small populations and with indicators that have low incidence rates in the general population.

Any county that experiences at least one occurrence of an indictor event (e.g., an infant death) has a rate calculated. To judge whether a zero occurrence was meaningful, we first calculated the expected frequency of the event in a given county based on the rate for the state as a whole. If the expected frequency is less than one, we do not report the rate and thus list only a "•." In this case, we are saying that there are simply too few occurrences of the event (e.g., births) due to small population numbers to have any expectation of the event in a single year.

If the expected frequency is less than one and the county experiences one or more occurrences of the event, we calculate and report a rate. In this case, we are saying that the event would be unlikely to occur in this county due to the small numbers of people and the fact that it did occur is noteworthy. Nevertheless, many of these rates are based on very low occurrences of the underlying event and, as a result, may experience dramatic swings from year to year.

Interpreting the Data. This report provides several ways to judge the indicator score for a particular county. Decile scores rank the counties into ten equal groups, thereby providing a comparison of a county relative to all other counties in the state. For all indicators, low decile scores indicate that the county does well compared to others while high decile scores indicate that the county does relatively poorly. A decile score of "1" indicates that the county is in the top ten percent while a decile score of "10" indicates that the county is in the bottom ten percent.

A county's indicator score can also be compared with the state average or mean score. In this way, one can see if the county score is better or worse than the average for the state as a whole.

Given the wide diversity in demographics across the 105 Kansas counties, it may also be helpful to compare your county with other specific counties that you judge to be similar with respect to important variables such as total population, income or geographic area.

In addition, it is important to compare current county indicator scores with past performance to determine whether the situation is improving or getting worse for a specific indicator. The *Data Book* provides a way to judge changes over time by producing "current" and "base" rates on each indicator where sufficient data are available. Current-year data are provided for the most recent available year. When available data permit, the base-year rate will be the average rate for the five years preceding the current year. Percent change over time is presented for all indicators with base-year and current-year data. On the county pages a bar graph is presented where these percent change scores have been converted to indicate "better" or "worse" trends over time.

Cautions. In producing the *Kansas KIDS COUNT Data Book*, we are continuously faced with decisions about the quality of the data we are able to obtain and how best to present the data to provide an accurate and useful picture of the status of children in our communities. Our experience has convinced us that annual county-level data are the most relevant to community interests and decision-making processes in Kansas. However, Kansas has a relatively small population and many more counties than most states. This makes it difficult to construct reliable rates at the county level for many of our indicators and may make it impossible to accurately discern trends in the annual data. To address these issues it is always important to recognize when a rate is based on very few incidents. For example, a childhood death rate may be calculated based on only two deaths in a year. If in the baseline period the county experienced on average only one death every two years, this will show up as a 400-percent increase. While the math behind this calculation is accurate, this increase is not reliable and would be judged to be "statistically insignificant." However, a child's death is not an "insignificant" number. We still feel that it is important to draw attention to that death to stimulate local interest and discussion. What was the cause of these two deaths and could they have been avoided? In cases like this, our recommendation is to focus on the number of incidents involved rather than the rates.

Because of the time required for our data sources to collect the indicator data and the time required to produce the book, the 1999 book contains data dating back to 1998 or even 1997. The reader is cautioned to check each indicator to determine the exact time period being reported. This information can be found in the tables and in the Data Notes and Sources section of this book. It is possible that more recent data on a particular indicator are now available and can be obtained from the sources listed in the book.

As always, we invite your feedback about the *1999 KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* and input regarding future productions of the book.

BIRTHS TO SINGLE TEENS

The availability of emotional, social, and economic support for first-time mothers is a key component to their transition into parenthood. Teenage mothers often lack this valuable support. Research reveals that teen mothers suffer from depressive symptoms at notably higher rates than other mothers. For some teens, these symptoms persist beyond the child's first birthday. The demands of fulfilling a parental role often interferes with the teen mother's opportunity for peer relationships as well as the opportunity to develop her own sense of self-identity, a critical developmental process for many individuals during their adolescent years. Motivation to continue their academic education or pursue job opportunities may also be affected by parenting responsibilities. For many teen mothers, the absence of emotional and financial support from the baby's father contributes to high stress levels and economic hardships. This often affects their children as well. Studies have shown that, during their preschool years, children born to teenage mothers tend to begin exhibiting delays in cognitive development. In comparison to children born to older mothers, those born to teenage mothers appear to have higher levels of aggression, which often lead to negative outcomes during their adolescent years.[1]

In 1997, 9.8 percent of all live births were to unwed females under the age of 20, a five-percent increase from the average percentage of births to teens for the previous five years. Since 1992, the actual number of teen births has risen annually. Compared to the average number of teen births for the previous five-year period, there were six percent more teen births in 1997. Teen birth rates presented in the national *KIDS COUNT* book are based on the number of births to teens per 1,000 females, ages 15-17, regardless of marital status. By this definition, the teen birth rate for Kansas has increased seven percent from 1985 to 1995, while the national rate shows an increase of 16 percent. In 1995, Kansas ranked 22nd (highest/best rank = 1, lowest/worst rank = 51), with a rate of 30 births per 1,000 teens. Compared to some of its neighboring states, Kansas ranked worse than Iowa and Nebraska, yet better than Missouri.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER TEEN BIRTHS	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 PERCENT OF TEEN BIRTHS	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF TEEN BIRTHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT OF TEEN BIRTHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	20	11.4	9	29	15.6	10	36
ANDERSON	7	7.7	6	4	5.1	3	-34
ATCHISON	25	11.9	9	19	9.1	6	-23
BARBER	4	6.5	4	6	11.3	8	75
BARTON	34	8.8	7	46	12.3	9	39
BOURBON	21	10.9	9	19	10.2	7	-7
BROWN	18	13.3	10	9	6.9	4	-48
BUTLER	62	8.6	7	53	7.2	4	-16
CHASE	3	8.1	6	5	8.9	6	10
CHAUTAUQUA	4	11.9	9	4	16.0	10	34
CHEROKEE	36	12.5	10	26	8.3	5	-33
CHEYENNE	2	6.4	4	1	3.2	2	-50
CLARK	1	2.3	1	1	4.2	3	79
CLAY	9	8.8	7	11	13.3	9	51
CLOUD	8	7.7	5	6	6.3	4	-19
COFFEY	9	8.7	7	9	8.6	6	-1
COMANCHE	1	2.7	1	2	11.1	8	307
COWLEY	50	10.3	8	63	13.5	9	31
CRAWFORD	43	9.0	7	53	10.8	7	20
DECATUR	2	4.9	2	1	3.3	2	-31
DICKINSON	21	9.0	7	30	14.5	10	60
DONIPHAN	7	8.0	6	13	12.9	9	61
DOUGLAS	77	7.1	5	69	6.8	4	-5
EDWARDS	3	7.1	5	1	3.4	2	-51
ELK	2	9.0	7	4	12.9	9	43
ELLIS	18	5.6	3	34	10.1	7	81
ELLSWORTH	4	8.1	6	1	2.4	1	-70
FINNEY	109	13.0	10	122	13.3	9	2
FORD	60	10.4	8	74	11.8	8	13
FRANKLIN	32	10.0	8	32	9.4	6	-6
GEARY	66	7.0	4	69	10.8	7	55
GOVE	1	4.0	1	0	.0	1	-100
GRAHAM	2	5.7	3	1	6.3	4	9

[1] Deal, L. & Holt, V. (1998). Young maternal age and depressive symptoms: Results from the 1988 national maternal and health survey. *American Journal of Public Health, 88(2), 266-274.*

[2] Coley, R. & Chase Lansdale, L. (1998). Adolescent pregnancy and parenthood. *American Psychologist, 53(2), 152-166.*

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER TEEN BIRTHS	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 PERCENT OF TEEN BIRTHS	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF TEEN BIRTHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT OF TEEN BIRTHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	18	13.2	10	25	17.0	10	29
GRAY	5	5.3	2	2	2.5	1	-53
GREELEY	1	5.2	2	1	5.9	3	13
GREENWOOD	9	11.1	9	9	11.4	8	3
HAMILTON	1	4.3	2	4	13.8	9	217
HARPER	5	7.2	5	7	11.1	8	53
HARVEY	31	7.8	6	34	8.3	5	5
HASKELL	5	6.4	3	6	7.5	5	18
HODGEMAN	2	9.9	8	0	.0	1	-100
JACKSON	11	7.1	5	17	10.9	8	53
JEFFERSON	13	6.4	4	22	10.9	7	70
JEWELL	1	3.8	1	1	3.4	2	-10
JOHNSON	200	3.4	1	206	3.3	2	-3
KEARNY	6	9.1	7	5	6.5	4	-29
KINGMAN	9	9.0	7	8	8.5	5	-6
KIOWA	2	5.4	3	1	2.8	1	-49
LABETTE	32	11.0	9	47	16.4	10	49
LANE	1	3.9	1	1	5.0	3	28
LEAVENWORTH	69	8.1	6	75	8.6	6	6
LINCOLN	1	4.0	1	0	.0	1	-100
LINN	11	12.0	9	8	8.3	5	-31
LOGAN	3	8.9	7	0	.0	1	-100
LYON	48	10.7	8	51	9.9	6	-8
MARION	7	4.8	2	10	7.7	5	61
MARSHALL	7	6.4	3	12	12.4	9	94
MCPHERSON	19	5.9	3	26	7.4	4	26
MEADE	4	6.5	4	6	9.1	6	41
MIAMI	24	7.4	5	23	7.7	5	4
MITCHELL	4	5.7	3	5	6.5	4	13
MONTGOMERY	60	13.5	10	62	14.5	10	7
MORRIS	5	6.2	3	4	5.8	3	-6
MORTON	4	6.8	4	5	8.8	6	29
NEMAHA	5	3.4	1	5	3.4	2	1
NEOSHO	21	10.5	8	24	11.7	8	11
NESS	3	6.6	4	1	3.2	2	-51
NORTON	6	9.9	8	2	3.8	2	-62
OSAGE	15	7.8	6	21	10.4	7	34
OSBORNE	3	7.0	5	3	7.5	5	6
OTTAWA	4	6.7	4	2	3.2	2	-52
PAWNEE	10	13.2	10	5	7.6	5	-43
PHILLIPS	4	5.4	2	3	5.5	3	0
POTTAWATOMIE	12	4.5	2	14	5.5	3	21
PRATT	7	6.7	4	10	8.4	5	26
RAWLINS	2	6.4	3	3	10.0	7	57
RENO	81	10.3	8	116	14.2	9	38
REPUBLIC	4	7.1	5	3	6.3	4	-12
RICE	11	8.9	7	10	8.8	6	-2
RILEY	40	4.1	1	32	3.7	2	-10
ROOKS	5	7.1	5	4	5.9	3	-17
RUSH	2	4.7	2	2	6.7	4	41
RUSSELL	5	6.6	4	3	4.5	3	-31
SALINE	74	9.9	8	82	11.8	8	19
SCOTT	6	8.6	6	6	8.8	6	3
SEDGWICK	784	10.8	9	796	11.0	8	2
SEWARD	56	13.0	10	46	11.0	8	-16
SHAWNEE	291	12.5	10	296	12.5	9	0
SHERIDAN	1	4.4	2	0	.0	1	-100
SHERMAN	12	15.0	10	12	12.9	9	-14
SMITH	1	1.3	1	1	2.9	1	116
STAFFORD	5	9.4	8	8	14.5	10	55
STANTON	3	7.4	5	7	15.2	10	105
STEVENS	9	11.5	9	10	10.3	7	-10
SUMNER	37	11.0	9	33	10.1	7	-8
THOMAS	9	8.2	6	12	10.6	7	29
TREGO	3	8.4	6	1	3.0	1	-64
WABAUNSEE	5	6.3	3	4	5.7	3	-9
WALLACE	1	5.3	2	1	3.8	2	-28
WASHINGTON	4	5.3	2	4	5.6	3	7
WICHITA	2	6.3	3	4	9.5	6	52
WILSON	13	11.6	9	18	15.5	10	34
WOODSON	3	8.3	6	3	10.3	7	25
WYANDOTTE	509	18.7	10	527	18.7	10	0
KANSAS	**3,444**	**9.3**		**3,634**	**9.8**		**5**

Data provided by Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Decile ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive outcome and "10" indicates the most negative outcome. Negative percent change represents improvement.

CHILDREN IN POVERTY

Perhaps the single most important indicator of the well-being of children is the percentage of children living in poverty. Poverty has been found to be linked to a number of undesirable outcomes for children, including health, education, child abuse and neglect, delinquency, and emotional well-being.[1] Despite the recognized importance of this measure, it remains impossible to obtain current, county-level data or even estimates from any federal or state agency. The 1993 estimates provided here are the best available childhood poverty data at this time.

A recent press release from the U.S. Census Bureau heralded the news that "three years of positive growth in real median income have restored household income and poverty rates to their 1989 pre-recessionary levels."[2] Further reading of this press release, however, reveals that the poverty rate for children in 1997 was virtually unchanged from the previous year. Children typically suffer higher poverty rates than the general population. In 1997, the poverty rate for the nation as a whole stood at 13.3 percent while for children it was 19.9 percent, 50 percent higher. Children also seldom share fully in the country's economic prosperity. It is remarkable that during the economic boom of the mid-1990s, one in five children in the nation remained in poverty, a rate 50 percent higher than the next highest rate when compared to 17 other developed countries.[3]

The childhood poverty rate in Kansas is lower than the national rate and ranked 17th nationally in 1995.[4] The rate appears to be steady over the last five years. The estimated childhood poverty rate in this year's book is 17 percent higher than the estimate provided in last year's book. This likely reflects the fact that the estimate last year did not include children less than five years of age and families with younger children are at higher risk of poverty. In Wyandotte County, one in three children are estimated to be living in families with incomes below what most authorities and the public consider to be an unrealistically low federal standard for poverty.

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[1] Children's Defense Fund. (1994). *Wasting America's Future*. Washington, D.C.

[2] U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau. (1997). *Money Income in the United States: 1997 and Poverty in the United States: 1997*. Washington, D.C.

[3] Rainwater, L., & Smeeding, T.M. (1995). Doing poorly: The real income of American Children in a comparative perspective. Working Paper No. 127. Luxembourg Income Study. Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y.

[4] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (1998). Kids Count Data Book: 1998. Baltimore, MD.

COUNTY	NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY	PERCENT OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY	MEDIAN INCOME	DECILE RANK
ALLEN	918	22	25,210	9
ANDERSON	370	17	24,430	7
ATCHISON	969	21	27,704	9
BARBER	162	10	26,921	1
BARTON	1,558	19	28,176	8
BOURBON	995	25	23,925	10
BROWN	779	25	24,267	10
BUTLER	1,886	11	37,127	2
CHASE	147	19	24,486	8
CHAUTAUQUA	280	27	19,715	10
CHEROKEE	1,768	30	23,044	10
CHEYENNE	112	14	26,059	5
CLARK	52	8	30,044	1
CLAY	425	18	26,607	8
CLOUD	397	16	24,981	7
COFFEY	281	12	29,164	2
COMANCHE	73	14	25,739	5
COWLEY	1,876	19	29,277	8
CRAWFORD	2,250	26	23,213	10
DECATUR	149	16	24,683	7
DICKINSON	852	16	27,278	7
DONIPHAN	428	21	26,092	9
DOUGLAS	2,814	15	31,240	6
EDWARDS	146	16	27,489	7
ELK	172	24	19,997	10
ELLIS	927	13	28,247	4
ELLSWORTH	186	12	25,476	2
FINNEY	2,104	17	31,781	7
FORD	1,771	21	29,029	9
FRANKLIN	1,142	17	29,026	7
GEARY	2,173	23	24,264	10
GOVE	80	9	29,853	1
GRAHAM	163	18	25,969	8

COUNTY	NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY	PERCENT OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY	MEDIAN INCOME	DECILE RANK
GRANT	423	16	37,586	7
GRAY	188	11	33,769	2
GREELEY	62	11	33,616	2
GREENWOOD	391	20	23,201	9
HAMILTON	91	15	29,444	6
HARPER	307	18	25,444	8
HARVEY	1,122	13	33,132	4
HASKELL	145	11	35,513	2
HODGEMAN	76	12	29,686	2
JACKSON	548	16	28,799	7
JEFFERSON	619	13	33,743	4
JEWELL	146	15	23,368	6
JOHNSON	6,723	6	50,174	1
KEARNY	202	14	35,133	5
KINGMAN	365	15	28,502	6
KIOWA	137	14	29,194	5
LABETTE	1,423	23	25,557	10
LANE	71	11	30,687	2
LEAVENWORTH	2,418	13	37,639	4
LINCOLN	125	15	22,629	6
LINN	453	20	24,324	9
LOGAN	115	13	27,139	4
LYON	1,692	18	28,886	8
MARION	396	13	26,497	4
MARSHALL	473	16	25,845	7
MCPHERSON	825	11	32,518	2
MEADE	143	12	30,141	2
MIAMI	907	13	33,397	4
MITCHELL	229	12	26,601	2
MONTGOMERY	2,413	24	24,982	10
MORRIS	310	19	26,360	8
MORTON	182	17	33,140	7
NEMAHA	413	13	27,426	4
NEOSHO	964	21	25,818	9
NESS	108	10	28,236	1
NORTON	201	15	27,415	6
OSAGE	657	14	29,553	5
OSBORNE	184	16	22,945	7
OTTAWA	199	14	26,740	5
PAWNEE	246	13	30,050	4
PHILLIPS	193	12	26,498	2
POTTAWATOMIE	679	13	31,216	4
PRATT	351	14	29,729	5
RAWLINS	118	13	25,033	4
RENO	3,134	19	29,377	8
REPUBLIC	232	16	24,721	7
RICE	560	20	26,988	9
RILEY	2,418	16	29,962	7
ROOKS	252	15	24,325	6
RUSH	126	15	23,051	6
RUSSELL	293	16	24,658	7
SALINE	2,304	17	31,250	7
SCOTT	145	9	32,954	1
SEDGWICK	22,936	19	34,921	8
SEWARD	1,549	24	29,038	10
SHAWNEE	8,081	19	33,893	8
SHERIDAN	114	14	27,921	5
SHERMAN	378	20	26,856	9
SMITH	172	16	23,890	7
STAFFORD	241	17	24,832	7
STANTON	113	15	33,414	6
STEVENS	224	13	35,263	4
SUMNER	1,046	13	31,574	4
THOMAS	362	15	28,958	6
TREGO	105	11	25,462	2
WABAUNSEE	218	12	31,408	2
WALLACE	69	13	27,989	4
WASHINGTON	252	15	23,582	6
WICHITA	122	14	33,197	5
WILSON	572	21	23,249	9
WOODSON	187	19	22,733	8
WYANDOTTE	14,491	32	26,381	10
KANSAS	**117,134**	**17**	**29,544**	

Data are from U.S. Census Bureau 1993 poverty estimates. Decile ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive result and "10" indicates the most negative result.

CHILDREN APPROVED FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Arguably, the single most important determinant of child well-being is family income. Children who grow up in poverty are at much higher risk of suffering various negative outcomes including other indicators described in this book. A direct measure of poverty at the county level on an annual basis is not available from other data sources. Approval for free school meals is based solely on family income with the eligibility standard tied to federal poverty levels. For this reason, the percent of children approved for free school meals can serve as a good proxy measure for childhood poverty. From this perspective, which is the intended use of the measure here, higher levels of children approved for free school meals can be viewed as an indicator of worsening economic conditions for children and families in the community.

For Kansas, the percentage of children approved for free school meals has held steady for the past two years and shows only a slight increase in 1998 compared to the average for the previous five years. While this could be viewed as good news, or at least not bad news, it should be noted that this plateau is at a relatively high rate and has not declined during a period of extreme economic prosperity in this country and state.

While increases in this measure are viewed here as a sign of worsening economic conditions for children, we must emphasize that full participation in this program for all eligible children is highly desirable. Results from a recent large-scale study in nine states suggest that hungry and at-risk-for-hunger children were twice as likely as not-hungry children to be classified as having impaired functioning. Teachers reported higher levels of hyperactivity, absenteeism, and tardiness.[1]

[1] Murphy, J.M., Wehler, C.A., Pagano, M.E., Little, M., Kleinman, R.E., and Jellinek, M.S. (1998). American Academy of Child Adolescent Psychiatry, 37(12), 1163-1170.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE PERCENT APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	862	30	9	828	30	8	0
ANDERSON	416	28	7	432	29	8	6
ATCHISON	945	30	9	870	34	9	14
BARBER	223	19	2	261	23	4	18
BARTON	1,548	28	7	1,552	31	9	12
BOURBON	954	33	10	937	32	9	-4
BROWN	703	34	10	585	31	8	-9
BUTLER	1,962	15	1	1,862	14	1	-6
CHASE	153	24	5	139	25	5	8
CHAUTAUQUA	285	41	10	306	40	10	-1
CHEROKEE	1,446	37	10	1,552	40	10	7
CHEYENNE	195	29	9	172	27	6	-9
CLARK	103	19	2	106	19	3	1
CLAY	404	23	5	382	23	4	-1
CLOUD	463	28	7	522	32	9	16
COFFEY	405	21	3	379	20	3	-5
COMANCHE	92	22	4	79	20	3	-10
COWLEY	1,831	26	6	1,796	27	6	4
CRAWFORD	2,124	32	9	2,016	32	9	1
DECATUR	162	22	4	143	21	4	-5
DICKINSON	997	25	6	1,343	36	10	46
DONIPHAN	473	28	8	423	26	6	-10
DOUGLAS	2,205	19	2	2,232	18	2	-4
EDWARDS	167	24	6	174	27	6	10
ELK	328	42	10	361	42	10	-1
ELLIS	789	17	1	642	16	1	-1
ELLSWORTH	290	20	3	257	19	2	-5
FINNEY	2,889	34	10	2,971	35	10	2
FORD	2,156	37	10	2,447	42	10	15
FRANKLIN	1,085	23	4	1,045	22	4	-3
GEARY	2,722	37	10	2,532	39	10	4
GOVE	94	13	1	99	13	1	3
GRAHAM	169	27	7	160	29	7	8

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE PERCENT APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	507	28	8	519	28	7	-1
GRAY	213	17	2	284	22	4	24
GREELEY	83	23	5	86	24	5	3
GREENWOOD	413	31	9	412	33	9	6
HAMILTON	127	29	9	147	30	8	1
HARPER	361	28	8	337	27	6	-5
HARVEY	1,378	22	4	1,244	21	4	-5
HASKELL	229	26	6	291	31	9	23
HODGEMAN	92	20	3	95	19	3	-5
JACKSON	492	21	3	521	22	4	3
JEFFERSON	726	17	2	713	16	1	-5
JEWELL	191	28	7	188	29	8	5
JOHNSON	4,556	7	1	4,425	6	1	-6
KEARNY	373	32	9	444	38	10	20
KINGMAN	412	23	5	362	23	5	-3
KIOWA	154	24	5	132	21	4	-10
LABETTE	1,332	29	8	1,340	30	8	4
LANE	97	19	2	74	16	1	-17
LEAVENWORTH	1,991	16	1	1,871	15	1	-2
LINCOLN	115	19	2	115	18	2	-1
LINN	557	28	8	573	28	7	-1
LOGAN	203	27	7	193	31	8	12
LYON	1,794	28	7	1,888	31	9	12
MARION	511	21	3	504	19	2	-7
MARSHALL	564	20	3	483	19	2	-7
MCPHERSON	718	14	1	645	12	1	-10
MEADE	133	22	4	111	17	2	-21
MIAMI	904	20	3	838	18	2	-10
MITCHELL	399	22	4	287	19	2	-15
MONTGOMERY	2,087	30	9	2,035	32	9	4
MORRIS	311	27	7	278	24	5	-10
MORTON	199	26	6	214	27	6	5
NEMAHA	376	18	2	336	18	2	-2
NEOSHO	943	29	8	919	28	7	-3
NESS	128	16	1	139	20	3	27
NORTON	227	21	3	231	21	4	0
OSAGE	680	21	3	800	24	5	12
OSBORNE	117	22	4	122	23	5	4
OTTAWA	277	21	4	279	20	3	-6
PAWNEE	351	24	5	335	26	6	10
PHILLIPS	261	23	4	269	23	5	1
POTTAWATOMIE	619	17	1	607	16	1	-5
PRATT	351	19	2	363	20	3	6
RAWLINS	168	28	8	159	28	7	0
RENO	3,022	26	6	2,773	26	6	-2
REPUBLIC	273	25	6	300	27	7	11
RICE	580	29	8	572	28	7	-2
RILEY	1,535	20	2	1,435	20	3	4
ROOKS	276	23	5	264	24	5	5
RUSH	191	26	6	201	29	8	12
RUSSELL	383	28	7	384	28	7	1
SALINE	2,272	24	6	2,349	27	6	11
SCOTT	254	23	4	234	20	3	-13
SEDGWICK	20,857	27	7	21,354	29	7	5
SEWARD	2,007	42	10	2,233	45	10	6
SHAWNEE	7,886	28	7	7,817	30	8	7
SHERIDAN	76	15	1	78	17	2	8
SHERMAN	367	29	8	330	27	6	-6
SMITH	210	25	6	211	25	5	1
STAFFORD	324	28	8	335	29	8	3
STANTON	174	32	9	174	32	9	1
STEVENS	282	24	5	312	27	6	13
SUMNER	1,070	22	4	1,063	22	4	1
THOMAS	334	20	2	319	20	3	4
TREGO	137	21	3	112	17	2	-17
WABAUNSEE	219	17	1	188	15	1	-7
WALLACE	98	23	5	113	25	5	9
WASHINGTON	372	25	6	295	22	4	-10
WICHITA	144	24	5	134	27	7	14
WILSON	672	31	9	659	31	9	-1
WOODSON	189	30	9	184	28	7	-6
WYANDOTTE	13,911	45	10	13,645	48	10	6
KANSAS	**114,472**	**24**		**113,881**	**25**		**2**

Data are from Kansas State Board of Education. Negative percent change indicates improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

CHILDREN RECEIVING ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

This measure is the percentage of all children who are receiving cash assistance, medical assistance, or food stamps. As discussed more fully in the opening section of this book, Kansas and other states have experienced a major drop in the number of welfare recipients that can be traced to the welfare reform legislation enacted in 1996. This trend continues in our current measure with the percent of children receiving economic assistance dropping from 16 percent in the baseline years of 1993-1997 to 13 percent in 1998. This represents a drop of nearly 10,000 children in the last year alone. Since 1996, the number of children in Kansas receiving only cash assistance has dropped by more than 23,000. The number receiving food stamps has shown an even more dramatic decline of more than 30,000, while the number receiving medical assistance has declined more than 11,000.

These dramatic declines are being touted by some as an indication of the success of welfare reform. In reality, welfare reform means the elimination of an economic safety net for families. The impact of this major policy change on those families and their children is largely unknown at this time. In the opening section of this book, we argue that other poverty indicators like the percentage of children approved for free school meals and childhood poverty rates are not showing similar declines. The harmful effects of poverty on children are well documented. If economic assistance is removed and poverty remains, children and families — and ultimately the future for Kansas — will suffer.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 PERCENT CHILDREN RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT CHILDREN RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	949	23	9	783	19	9	-15
ANDERSON	354	16	7	317	14	7	-11
ATCHISON	994	21	9	826	17	9	-18
BARBER	148	10	2	182	12	6	27
BARTON	1,669	21	9	1,280	16	8	-21
BOURBON	978	24	10	900	22	10	-8
BROWN	752	24	10	588	19	9	-22
BUTLER	2,093	12	4	1,777	10	3	-20
CHASE	141	18	8	139	19	9	2
CHAUTAUQUA	274	26	10	245	23	10	-9
CHEROKEE	1,792	29	10	1,561	25	10	-13
CHEYENNE	69	9	2	47	6	1	-30
CLARK	68	11	3	62	10	3	-11
CLAY	376	15	7	270	11	5	-26
CLOUD	395	16	7	378	15	8	0
COFFEY	347	14	6	311	13	6	-10
COMANCHE	42	8	2	43	9	2	9
COWLEY	2,092	20	9	1,836	18	9	-11
CRAWFORD	2,298	26	10	2,107	24	10	-6
DECATUR	74	8	2	67	7	2	-6
DICKINSON	757	14	6	552	11	5	-26
DONIPHAN	454	21	9	359	17	9	-20
DOUGLAS	2,828	14	6	2,663	12	6	-10
EDWARDS	138	15	6	123	14	7	-8
ELK	200	27	10	194	26	10	-4
ELLIS	832	11	4	731	10	4	-13
ELLSWORTH	175	11	3	147	10	4	-12
FINNEY	1,977	15	7	1,642	12	6	-21
FORD	1,666	19	8	1,401	15	8	-18
FRANKLIN	1,240	18	8	1,164	17	9	-9
GEARY	2,411	27	10	1,658	22	10	-18
GOVE	47	5	1	51	6	1	10
GRAHAM	93	10	3	69	8	2	-22

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 PERCENT CHILDREN RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT CHILDREN RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	400	14	6	316	11	5	-24
GRAY	143	8	2	133	7	2	-7
GREELEY	34	6	1	22	4	1	-33
GREENWOOD	460	23	9	438	22	10	-4
HAMILTON	84	14	6	101	17	8	22
HARPER	319	19	8	277	17	8	-11
HARVEY	1,167	13	5	969	11	5	-19
HASKELL	178	13	5	146	10	4	-21
HODGEMAN	44	7	1	36	6	1	-17
JACKSON	581	17	7	442	13	6	-25
JEFFERSON	558	11	4	488	10	3	-17
JEWELL	111	11	3	108	11	5	-1
JOHNSON	4,804	4	1	3,654	3	1	-28
KEARNY	231	16	7	211	14	7	-10
KINGMAN	316	13	5	223	9	3	-29
KIOWA	118	12	4	98	11	5	-10
LABETTE	1,563	24	10	1,320	21	10	-14
LANE	77	12	4	72	12	6	1
LEAVENWORTH	2,376	12	4	2,009	10	4	-16
LINCOLN	84	10	2	71	9	3	-12
LINN	413	18	8	360	15	7	-16
LOGAN	90	11	3	70	8	2	-19
LYON	1,817	18	8	1,570	16	8	-12
MARION	349	11	3	295	9	3	-15
MARSHALL	337	11	3	293	10	4	-10
MCPHERSON	727	10	2	609	8	2	-17
MEADE	88	7	1	76	6	1	-14
MIAMI	900	12	5	735	10	3	-22
MITCHELL	168	9	2	129	7	2	-21
MONTGOMERY	2,528	25	10	2,052	21	9	-17
MORRIS	305	19	8	183	12	5	-38
MORTON	134	13	5	110	10	4	-20
NEMAHA	202	7	1	181	6	1	-7
NEOSHO	1,082	24	9	952	21	10	-11
NESS	59	6	1	61	6	2	11
NORTON	187	14	6	158	12	5	-15
OSAGE	678	15	6	626	13	6	-12
OSBORNE	137	12	4	120	11	5	-7

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 PERCENT CHILDREN RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT CHILDREN RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
OTTAWA	202	13	6	150	10	4	-27
PAWNEE	245	12	5	268	15	7	18
PHILLIPS	166	10	3	179	12	6	15
POTTAWATOMIE	612	11	4	507	9	3	-20
PRATT	341	13	5	349	13	7	3
RAWLINS	65	7	1	47	5	1	-25
RENO	3,458	21	9	2,971	18	9	-14
REPUBLIC	173	12	4	196	14	7	17
RICE	555	20	9	378	14	7	-30
RILEY	1,647	10	2	1,207	8	2	-22
ROOKS	203	13	5	184	12	6	-5
RUSH	130	15	7	99	13	6	-18
RUSSELL	318	17	7	265	15	7	-15
SALINE	2,387	17	7	2,141	15	7	-10
SCOTT	128	8	2	123	8	2	-1
SEDGWICK	24,336	19	8	21,033	16	8	-16
SEWARD	1,553	24	9	1,026	15	7	-37
SHAWNEE	8,795	20	8	7,677	17	9	-13
SHERIDAN	37	5	1	30	4	1	-17
SHERMAN	313	16	7	278	15	8	-8
SMITH	138	12	5	138	13	6	6
STAFFORD	234	17	7	236	18	9	4
STANTON	78	10	3	57	7	2	-29
STEVENS	229	13	6	184	10	4	-22
SUMNER	1,119	14	6	799	10	3	-30
THOMAS	293	12	4	259	11	5	-9
TREGO	69	8	1	81	9	3	25
WABAUNSEE	220	12	4	121	6	1	-46
WALLACE	46	8	2	58	10	4	25
WASHINGTON	186	11	3	173	10	4	-3
WICHITA	113	12	5	94	10	4	-16
WILSON	546	20	9	449	16	8	-17
WOODSON	190	19	8	159	16	8	-14
WYANDOTTE	14,888	32	10	11,500	25	10	-21
KANSAS	**116,585**	**16**		**97,603**	**13**		**-17**

Data are for the month of June 1993 through 1998 and include all children receiving cash assistance, medical assistance, or food stamps. Data provided by the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Population data are estimates derived from U.S. Census.

CHILDHOOD DEATHS

Injuries have surpassed infectious diseases as the greatest threat to children.[1] Motor vehicles are the leading cause of trauma deaths for children.[2] Over the last three years, 28,000 Kansas children, ages 0 to 14, were killed or seriously injured in motor vehicle accidents.[3] Available data reveal that 71 percent of motor vehicle deaths for children under five years of age could have been avoided with proper use of a child-restraining device. Other data indicate that while 56 percent of five- to nine- year olds and 66 percent of ten- to 14- year-olds are front-seat passengers, approximately 77 percent and 83 percent, respectively, are improperly restrained or fail to wear a seat belt.[4]

The childhood death rate is based on the number of deaths of children ages one to 14, from all causes, per 100,000 children in this age group. From 1985 to 1995, a 31-percent decline in the Kansas childhood death rate can be seen.[5] In 1997, the Kansas childhood death rate improved 7.4 percent from the base-years period. Wyandotte, Johnson, and Douglas counties celebrated noticeable declines. This year, approximately 33 percent of Kansas childhood deaths were attributed to motor vehicles, fires in private dwellings, firearms/explosives, and accidental drowning.[6] Sadly enough, some children died of health conditions that are incurable at this time; however, the majority of childhood deaths caused by injuries most likely could have been prevented.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDHOOD DEATHS	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF CHILDHOOD DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	.6	19.2	4	1	33.6	7	75
ANDERSON	.8	50.0	9	1	64.0	9	28
ATCHISON	.8	22.7	4	2	58.4	8	157
BARBER	.8	66.5	10	0	+	+	+
BARTON	.6	9.7	3	1	17.2	6	76
BOURBON	1.0	33.9	7	1	34.6	7	2
BROWN	1.2	50.6	9	0	+	+	+
BUTLER	3.0	23.8	4	0	.0	6	-100
CHASE	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
CHAUTAUQUA	.4	51.4	9	0	+	+	+
CHEROKEE	1.0	22.4	4	2	45.5	8	104
CHEYENNE	.4	66.2	10	0	+	+	+
CLARK	.8	171.2	10	0	+	+	+
CLAY	.6	32.5	6	1	56.2	8	73
CLOUD	.4	21.4	4	1	57.7	8	170
COFFEY	.8	44.2	8	1	56.7	8	28
COMANCHE	.2	50.1	9	0	+	+	+
COWLEY	3.0	39.1	7	2	27.0	7	-31
CRAWFORD	2.2	33.6	6	0	.0	6	-100
DECATUR	.2	26.9	5	0	+	+	+
DICKINSON	1.6	40.4	8	1	25.9	6	-36
DONIPHAN	.6	38.0	7	0	+	+	+
DOUGLAS	2.8	19.7	4	1	6.9	6	-65
EDWARDS	.2	28.3	5	0	+	+	+
ELK	.0	+	+	1	190.1	10	*
ELLIS	1.4	26.3	5	2	38.2	7	46
ELLSWORTH	.2	17.5	3	0	+	+	+
FINNEY	3.8	39.7	8	3	30.5	7	-23
FORD	2.6	39.6	7	3	45.2	8	14
FRANKLIN	1.6	31.7	6	3	59.2	9	86
GEARY	3.4	48.4	9	3	52.6	8	9
GOVE	.6	92.1	10	0	+	+	+
GRAHAM	.0	+	+	1	155.0	10	*

[1] Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Office of Injury and Disability Programs. (1998, October 30). On line: kdhe.state.ks.us/oidp/#ksfire.

[2] Rivara, F. and Grossman, D. (1996). Prevention of traumatic deaths to children in the United States: How far have we come and where do we need to go? *Pediatrics, 97(6)*, 791-797.

[3] Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas Safe Kids Coalition. (1998, October 30). On line: www.state.ks.us/kdhe/oidp/safekids/seated.html

[4] Rivara, F. and Grossman, D. (1996). Prevention of traumatic deaths to children in the United States: How far have we come and where do we need to go? *Pediatrics, 97(6)*, 791-797.

[5] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (1998). *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 1998*. Baltimore, MD. Data provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDHOOD DEATHS	CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE	DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF CHILDHOOD DEATHS	CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	.8	38.0	7	3	139.4	10	267
GRAY	.0	+	+	1	75.0	9	*
GREELEY	.4	90.7	10	0	+	+	+
GREENWOOD	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
HAMILTON	.2	43.9	8	1	227.8	10	419
HARPER	.2	15.2	3	0	+	+	+
HARVEY	1.8	27.8	5	0	.0	6	-100
HASKELL	.0	+	+	1	100.6	10	*
HODGEMAN	.2	41.1	8	0	+	+	+
JACKSON	.8	30.7	6	2	77.8	9	153
JEFFERSON	.8	22.0	4	1	26.9	6	22
JEWELL	.6	81.6	10	1	142.0	10	74
JOHNSON	14.0	17.1	3	8	9.5	6	-45
KEARNY	.2	18.2	4	1	91.1	10	400
KINGMAN	1.4	77.7	10	0	+	+	+
KIOWA	.0	+	+	1	153.1	10	*
LABETTE	2.8	59.3	10	4	89.0	9	50
LANE	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
LEAVENWORTH	3.6	24.7	4	2	13.8	6	-44
LINCOLN	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
LINN	1.0	57.9	9	0	+	+	+
LOGAN	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
LYON	2.6	35.0	7	3	42.0	8	20
MARION	.8	33.8	6	0	+	+	+
MARSHALL	1.0	41.7	8	2	87.5	9	110
MCPHERSON	1.6	27.7	5	1	17.6	6	-37
MEADE	.4	42.8	8	0	+	+	+
MIAMI	1.4	26.1	5	2	36.6	7	40
MITCHELL	.6	43.0	8	0	+	+	+
MONTGOMERY	1.6	21.2	4	1	14.0	6	-34
MORRIS	.6	49.1	9	0	+	+	+
MORTON	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
NEMAHA	.8	33.9	7	1	44.5	8	32
NEOSHO	1.6	46.5	9	0	+	+	+
NESS	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
NORTON	.4	42.2	8	0	+	+	+
OSAGE	.6	17.6	3	1	28.8	7	64
OSBORNE	1.0	116.3	10	4	502.5	10	332
OTTAWA	.2	17.5	3	1	88.2	9	403
PAWNEE	.6	41.5	8	0	+	+	+
PHILLIPS	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
POTTAWATOMIE	1.2	29.9	6	1	24.6	6	-18
PRATT	.6	31.1	6	0	+	+	+
RAWLINS	.4	58.2	9	0	+	+	+
RENO	3.6	28.9	6	6	49.4	8	71
REPUBLIC	.4	36.7	7	1	96.8	10	164
RICE	.6	28.1	5	0	+	+	+
RILEY	3.0	25.6	5	0	.0	6	-100
ROOKS	.0	+	+	1	86.7	9	*
RUSH	.2	30.3	6	0	+	+	+
RUSSELL	.2	14.3	3	1	74.6	9	421
SALINE	1.8	16.9	3	4	38.6	7	128
SCOTT	.2	17.4	3	0	+	+	+
SEDGWICK	28.4	30.5	6	28	30.0	7	-2
SEWARD	1.2	24.2	4	0	.0	6	-100
SHAWNEE	8.8	26.6	5	12	37.2	7	40
SHERIDAN	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
SHERMAN	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
SMITH	.4	48.0	9	0	+	+	+
STAFFORD	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
STANTON	.2	34.3	7	0	+	+	+
STEVENS	.2	15.7	3	0	+	+	+
SUMNER	3.0	50.2	9	1	16.9	6	-66
THOMAS	.6	32.5	6	0	+	+	+
TREGO	.2	27.6	5	0	+	+	+
WABAUNSEE	.0	+	+	1	72.9	9	*
WALLACE	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
WASHINGTON	.0	+	+	1	84.0	9	*
WICHITA	.6	87.2	10	0	+	+	+
WILSON	.8	39.3	7	0	+	+	+
WOODSON	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
WYANDOTTE	13.2	38.3	7	9	27.4	7	-29
KANSAS	**152**	**28.4**		**139**	**26.3**		**-7.4**

Mortality data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Childhood mortality rates represent the number of deaths per 100,000 children age 1-14. Population data are estimates made by the U.S. Census Bureau. Negative change scores indicate improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

+ Rates are not calculated for counties with too few children for meaningful interpretation.
* Zero events in the base years prevent calculation of percent change scores.

INFANT MORTALITY

The infant mortality rate represents the number of deaths of children under one year old per 1,000 live births. From 1985 to 1995, Kansas celebrated a 25-percent improvement in its infant mortality rate. An improvement of 8.4 percent can be seen when comparing 1997 to the previous five-year period. Based on the most recent available national data, Kansas ranked 17th in 1995, a tremendous improvement from two years earlier when the state ranked 33rd.[1] Fifty percent of all Kansas counties with percent change rates show improvement from the base-year period. Among the more populated counties, three show significant declines in infant mortality rates: Riley (-78 percent), Butler (-57 percent), and Douglas (-50 percent). Reno, Leavenworth, and Wyandotte counties also showed noticeable improvement.

In 1996, more than 50 percent of all infant deaths in the United States were attributable to four major causes: birth defects, disorders related to premature birth and low birth weight, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), and respiratory distress syndrome.[2] Advances in public health and clinical medicine have played a key role in the decline of the country's overall infant mortality rate.[3] However, the rate of infant deaths attributed to birth defects, which are the leading cause of infant mortality, has failed to decline as rapidly as the overall infant mortality rate.[4] A recent report identified a correlation between poverty and high incidents of infant deaths associated with birth defects.[5] This finding suggests that access to health care services may be a critical factor in the declining rate of infant deaths associated with birth defects.[6] The infant mortality objective set for Year 2000 is to accomplish an overall infant mortality rate of seven per 1,000 live births.[7] Successfully able to achieve a rate of seven in 1995, Kansas can achieve that rate, or do better, in the future.[8]

[1] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (1998). *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 1998*, Baltimore, MD.
[2] Guyer, G., Martin, J., MacDorman, M., Anderson, R., and Strobino, D. (1997). Annual summary of vital statistics—1996. *Pediatrics, 100(6)*, 905-918.
[3] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (1998, September 25). *Morbidity and mortality weekly report, 47(37)*.
[4] Guyer, G., et al (1997). Annual summary of vital statistics—1996. Pediatrics, 100(6), 905-918.
[5] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (1998). *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 1998*, Baltimore, MD.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 INFANT MORTALITY RATE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	1	4.6	3	0	.0	5	-100
ANDERSON	1	8.8	7	0	+	+	+
ATCHISON	1	5.7	4	0	.0	5	-100
BARBER	0	6.8	5	0	+	+	+
BARTON	5	14.1	10	4	10.7	8	-25
BOURBON	2	9.4	8	1	5.3	6	-43
BROWN	1	7.3	6	1	7.7	7	5
BUTLER	7	9.4	8	3	4.0	6	-57
CHASE	0	.0	2	1	17.9	9	*
CHAUTAUQUA	1	17.9	10	3	120.0	10	572
CHEROKEE	2	7.6	6	2	6.4	7	-16
CHEYENNE	0	.0	2	1	32.3	10	*
CLARK	0	15.5	10	0	+	+	+
CLAY	0	3.9	2	1	12.0	9	210
CLOUD	1	11.0	9	0	+	+	+
COFFEY	0	3.8	2	2	19.0	9	395
COMANCHE	0	9.1	7	0	+	+	+
COWLEY	4	9.2	7	1	2.1	6	-77
CRAWFORD	3	6.3	5	2	4.1	6	-36
DECATUR	0	5.4	4	0	+	+	+
DICKINSON	2	8.6	6	1	4.8	6	-44
DONIPHAN	0	2.2	2	0	+	+	+
DOUGLAS	8	7.8	6	4	3.9	6	-50
EDWARDS	0	10.1	8	0	+	+	+
ELK	0	7.5	6	0	+	+	+
ELLIS	3	9.4	8	2	6.0	6	-37
ELLSWORTH	0	3.7	2	1	24.4	10	566
FINNEY	5	5.5	4	7	7.7	7	39
FORD	4	6.9	5	8	12.8	9	85
FRANKLIN	3	10.1	8	4	11.7	9	16
GEARY	11	11.9	9	7	11.0	8	-7
GOVE	1	16.9	10	0	+	+	+
GRAHAM	0	7.1	5	0	+	+	+

[6] Guyer, G., et al (1997). Annual summary of vital statistics—1996. Pediatrics, 100(6), 905-918.
[7] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (1998). *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 1998*, Baltimore, MD.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 INFANT MORTALITY RATE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	1	5.8	4	2	13.6	9	135
GRAY	1	9.3	8	0	+	+	+
GREELEY	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
GREENWOOD	1	7.6	6	1	12.7	9	68
HAMILTON	0	.0	2	1	34.5	10	*
HARPER	0	2.9	2	0	+	+	+
HARVEY	4	9.2	7	3	7.3	7	-21
HASKELL	0	5.3	4	0	+	+	+
HODGEMAN	0	19.8	10	0	+	+	+
JACKSON	1	8.7	7	0	.0	5	-100
JEFFERSON	3	14.2	10	3	14.9	9	4
JEWELL	0	5.5	4	0	+	+	+
JOHNSON	32	5.5	4	32	5.1	6	-7
KEARNY	1	9.1	7	0	+	+	+
KINGMAN	1	10.2	9	2	21.3	10	108
KIOWA	1	13.6	9	0	+	+	+
LABETTE	1	4.2	3	0	.0	5	-100
LANE	0	15.6	10	0	+	+	+
LEAVENWORTH	8	9.2	7	6	6.9	7	-25
LINCOLN	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
LINN	1	13.4	9	0	+	+	+
LOGAN	0	.0	2	1	33.3	10	*
LYON	3	7.2	6	3	5.8	6	-19
MARION	1	4.1	3	1	7.7	7	88
MARSHALL	0	1.9	2	1	10.3	8	449
MCPHERSON	3	9.1	7	3	8.6	8	-6
MEADE	1	9.2	8	2	30.3	10	228
MIAMI	3	8.0	6	2	6.7	7	-16
MITCHELL	0	2.9	2	1	13.0	9	353
MONTGOMERY	4	8.6	7	3	7.0	7	-18
MORRIS	0	5.1	3	0	+	+	+
MORTON	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
NEMAHA	1	8.9	7	3	20.7	10	132
NEOSHO	1	3.0	2	0	.0	5	-100
NESS	0	5.1	3	0	+	+	+
NORTON	0	6.6	5	0	+	+	+
OSAGE	1	6.2	5	1	5.0	6	-19
OSBORNE	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
OTTAWA	0	3.2	2	0	+	+	+

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 INFANT MORTALITY RATE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
PAWNEE	2	22.9	10	0	+	+	+
PHILLIPS	0	5.7	4	0	+	+	+
POTTAWATOMIE	1	5.5	4	1	3.9	6	-28
PRATT	1	10.8	9	1	8.4	8	-22
RAWLINS	0	7.1	5	0	+	+	+
RENO	7	9.2	7	5	6.1	7	-33
REPUBLIC	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
RICE	2	13.2	9	2	17.5	9	33
RILEY	5	5.2	3	1	1.2	5	-78
ROOKS	1	9.3	8	1	14.7	9	58
RUSH	0	5.9	5	0	+	+	+
RUSSELL	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
SALINE	6	8.3	6	8	11.5	8	39
SCOTT	1	17.7	10	0	+	+	+
SEDGWICK	67	9.2	8	71	9.8	8	7
SEWARD	3	7.0	5	3	7.1	7	3
SHAWNEE	19	8.1	6	23	9.7	8	20
SHERIDAN	0	7.4	6	0	+	+	+
SHERMAN	0	4.9	3	0	+	+	+
SMITH	1	13.2	9	0	+	+	+
STAFFORD	1	11.7	9	2	36.4	10	210
STANTON	0	9.9	8	0	+	+	+
STEVENS	0	5.0	3	0	+	+	+
SUMNER	2	5.3	4	2	6.1	7	14
THOMAS	1	7.0	5	1	8.8	8	26
TREGO	0	13.0	9	0	+	+	+
WABAUNSEE	0	5.2	3	0	+	+	+
WALLACE	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
WASHINGTON	0	5.6	4	0	+	+	+
WICHITA	0	5.2	3	1	23.8	10	355
WILSON	2	15.6	10	0	+	+	+
WOODSON	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
WYANDOTTE	31	11.4	9	25	8.9	8	-22
KANSAS	**299**	**8.06**		**274**	**7.38**		**-8.4**

Mortality data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Infant mortality rates represent the number of infant deaths per 1,000 infants. Negative change scores indicate improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

\+ Rates are not calculated for counties with too few children for meaningful interpretation.
* Zero events in the base years prevent calculation of percent change scores.

BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE

Births with early prenatal care represent the number of live births in which the mother started prenatal care within the first three months of her pregnancy. Compared to the base-years period, there has been a slight increase in the overall percentage of Kansas women seeking prenatal care. Graham and Lane counties successfully accomplished a 100-percent rate for the year. A serious concern is raised for counties such as Finney, Ford, and Haskell, where the prenatal care rate was less than 70 percent during the base-years period and has declined further in 1997. The significant percentage decrease for Kiowa, Lincoln, and Scott counties is also troubling. Compared to their base-years period, Kiowa County's early prenatal care rate declined from 86 percent to 66 percent, Lincoln County from 93 percent to 73 percent, and Scott County from 79 percent to 62 percent.

For many women, especially first-time mothers, early prenatal care is an important component to their pregnancy experience. In addition to building a trusting relationship with their physician, women learn about healthy eating habits and proper exercise, which support a healthier pregnancy outcome. Early prenatal care can also provide for early detection of possible complications for the baby. A recent study indicated an association between less than adequate prenatal care utilization and decreased numbers of well-child visits, as well as less than complete DPT and polio immunizations.[1] In view of the overall benefits of early prenatal care, it is important for Kansas counties to explore ways to increase access and utilization of prenatal care services.

[1] Kogan, M., Alexander, G., Jack, B., and Allen, M. (1998). The association between adequacy of prenatal care utilization and subsequent pediatric care utilization in the united states. *Pediatrics, 102(1)*, 25-30.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	146	84	6	173	93	2	11
ANDERSON	75	83	7	69	87	5	5
ATCHISON	170	81	8	169	82	7	2
BARBER	48	82	7	43	81	8	-1
BARTON	312	82	7	308	84	7	2
BOURBON	148	77	10	164	88	5	14
BROWN	112	82	7	114	88	5	7
BUTLER	638	88	3	656	89	3	1
CHASE	33	84	6	48	86	6	2
CHAUTAUQUA	26	78	9	21	84	7	7
CHEROKEE	224	78	9	256	82	7	6
CHEYENNE	25	89	2	26	84	7	-6
CLARK	22	87	4	19	79	8	-9
CLAY	87	85	5	77	93	2	9
CLOUD	97	89	2	82	85	6	-4
COFFEY	92	89	2	91	88	5	-1
COMANCHE	18	83	7	16	89	4	7
COWLEY	406	85	5	405	87	6	3
CRAWFORD	401	85	6	436	89	4	5
DECATUR	31	85	5	26	87	6	2
DICKINSON	196	84	6	182	89	3	6
DONIPHAN	73	79	9	88	88	5	12
DOUGLAS	935	87	3	913	90	3	3
EDWARDS	31	80	8	22	76	9	-5
ELK	22	83	7	25	81	8	-3
ELLIS	294	93	1	308	92	2	-1
ELLSWORTH	47	87	4	37	90	2	4
FINNEY	505	61	10	504	56	10	-8
FORD	389	67	10	397	64	10	-5
FRANKLIN	264	84	6	303	89	3	7
GEARY	653	69	10	480	76	9	9
GOVE	31	88	3	25	78	8	-11
GRAHAM	26	92	1	16	100	1	9

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	95	69	10	109	75	9	8
GRAY	71	83	7	57	71	9	-14
GREELEY	16	83	7	12	71	10	-15
GREENWOOD	62	79	9	60	80	8	2
HAMILTON	22	80	8	21	78	8	-2
HARPER	56	81	8	57	90	2	12
HARVEY	327	84	6	364	88	4	5
HASKELL	49	66	10	46	57	10	-13
HODGEMAN	18	88	3	13	81	7	-8
JACKSON	149	93	1	139	89	3	-5
JEFFERSON	174	89	2	178	89	4	0
JEWELL	31	86	5	25	86	6	0
JOHNSON	5,480	94	1	5,863	95	1	2
KEARNY	43	66	10	51	66	10	0
KINGMAN	85	87	4	80	85	7	-2
KIOWA	38	86	5	24	67	10	-22
LABETTE	242	84	6	244	85	6	1
LANE	21	83	7	20	100	1	21
LEAVENWORTH	766	90	2	758	87	5	-3
LINCOLN	28	93	1	22	73	9	-21
LINN	72	80	8	80	83	7	4
LOGAN	30	89	2	26	87	6	-2
LYON	388	77	9	403	83	7	7
MARION	128	87	3	111	85	6	-2
MARSHALL	86	80	8	86	89	4	10
MCPHERSON	276	84	6	307	88	4	5
MEADE	51	79	9	45	68	10	-13
MIAMI	288	89	2	268	90	3	2
MITCHELL	61	87	4	68	88	4	1
MONTGOMERY	376	85	5	391	92	2	7
MORRIS	66	85	5	60	88	4	4
MORTON	34	65	10	42	74	9	14
NEMAHA	122	90	2	135	93	1	3
NEOSHO	172	86	4	184	90	3	4
NESS	34	87	4	23	74	9	-14
NORTON	52	86	4	48	94	1	9
OSAGE	177	91	1	179	89	3	-2
OSBORNE	42	93	1	38	95	1	2

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
OTTAWA	58	93	1	60	95	1	2
PAWNEE	67	85	5	56	88	5	2
PHILLIPS	61	87	3	48	87	5	0
POTTAWATOMIE	218	85	5	223	88	5	3
PRATT	97	87	4	96	81	8	-7
RAWLINS	24	84	6	28	93	1	12
RENO	628	80	8	612	75	9	-6
REPUBLIC	47	87	4	42	88	5	1
RICE	98	81	8	91	80	8	-2
RILEY	780	81	7	728	84	7	4
ROOKS	60	93	1	59	87	6	-7
RUSH	30	89	2	27	93	1	5
RUSSELL	64	88	3	60	91	2	3
SALINE	669	90	2	633	91	2	1
SCOTT	53	79	9	42	62	10	-22
SEDGWICK	6,194	86	5	6,200	86	6	1
SEWARD	213	50	10	239	58	10	15
SHAWNEE	2,093	90	2	2,115	90	3	0
SHERIDAN	23	88	3	20	87	6	-1
SHERMAN	66	82	7	85	91	2	11
SMITH	39	87	4	31	89	4	2
STAFFORD	41	80	8	41	76	9	-6
STANTON	31	78	9	34	76	9	-3
STEVENS	52	66	10	69	73	9	10
SUMNER	282	84	6	289	88	4	5
THOMAS	100	88	3	102	90	2	3
TREGO	30	97	1	30	91	2	-6
WABAUNSEE	66	86	4	66	94	1	9
WALLACE	17	77	9	21	81	8	5
WASHINGTON	63	88	3	63	89	4	1
WICHITA	30	79	9	29	69	10	-13
WILSON	95	82	7	96	83	7	1
WOODSON	27	81	8	26	90	3	11
WYANDOTTE	2,150	79	9	2,170	78	8	-1
KANSAS	**31,373**	**84.5**		**31,667**	**85.6**		**1**

Data provided by Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Decile ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive outcome and "10" indicates the most negative outcome. Positive percent change represents improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

KINDERGARTNERS FULLY IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2

Childhood vaccinations are recognized as the most cost-effective way to prevent certain infectious diseases. Yet, many children do not receive all recommended vaccinations. The results of a study conducted in the Midwest revealed that children of mothers who failed to receive proper prenatal care, who are in poverty, and who are single parents are less likely to have their full complement of vaccinations by the age of two.[1] While socioeconomic factors were identified, the study recognized that other factors, including structural barriers, are also associated with failure to receive adequate vaccinations for children by age two.

This measure is the percentage of Kansas children in kindergarten who were adequately immunized by age two based on a retrospective survey of immunization certificates at the time of enrollment for kindergarten. Compared to the previous five-year period, Kansas celebrated a 23-percent improvement in 1997. All but two counties (Lincoln and Stanton) showed an increase. Twenty-two percent of Kansas counties had a positive percent change of 50 percent or greater. Greenwood is applauded for showing the greatest improvement, with a 93-percent change. Likewise, 96 percent of all kindergartners in Comanche County were immunized by age two, the highest rate in Kansas. The remarkable improvement in the percentage of Kansas kindergartners who were fully immunized by the age of two places the state closer to achieving the nation's Healthy People 2000 goal of 90-percent immunization of all two-year-olds.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1991, 93-96 ESTIMATED AVERAGE NUMBER IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	BASE YEARS - 1991, 93-96 AVERAGE PERCENT IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	BASE YEARS - 1991, 93-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 ESTIMATED NUMBER IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT IMMUNIZED	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	97	48	8	120	70	7	46
ANDERSON	54	50	8	57	59	9	18
ATCHISON	63	39	10	95	55	10	41
BARBER	56	58	4	61	79	4	35
BARTON	193	50	7	215	68	8	34
BOURBON	98	51	7	121	61	9	20
BROWN	79	54	6	79	77	4	43
BUTLER	502	58	5	642	74	6	27
CHASE	24	55	6	28	73	6	32
CHAUTAUQUA	23	47	8	37	67	8	42
CHEROKEE	118	42	9	167	60	9	43
CHEYENNE	26	60	4	22	61	9	3
CLARK	17	44	9	27	67	9	51
CLAY	73	61	4	78	75	5	23
CLOUD	51	44	9	57	67	8	54
COFFEY	78	56	5	85	77	5	36
COMANCHE	18	63	3	30	96	1	52
COWLEY	289	58	5	314	72	7	24
CRAWFORD	192	42	9	300	73	6	73
DECATUR	27	54	7	32	67	9	23
DICKINSON	183	59	4	204	77	5	30
DONIPHAN	50	41	10	66	59	10	41
DOUGLAS	661	73	1	728	81	3	10
EDWARDS	27	56	6	36	81	3	44
ELK	21	43	9	20	78	4	80
ELLIS	180	62	3	185	79	3	28
ELLSWORTH	59	64	3	53	87	2	37
FINNEY	354	42	9	528	61	9	44
FORD	244	52	7	349	70	8	34
FRANKLIN	178	50	8	255	72	7	45
GEARY	400	54	7	409	70	7	31
GOVE	26	52	7	42	78	4	50
GRAHAM	14	33	10	20	58	10	75

[1] Bates, A., and Wolinsky, F. (1998). Personal, financial, and structural barriers to immunization in socioeconomically disadvantaged urban children. *Pediatrics, 101*(4), 591-596.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Services. Healthy People 2000: National Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Objectives. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office: 1990. PHS 91-50212.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1991, 93-96 ESTIMATED AVERAGE NUMBER IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	BASE YEARS - 1991, 93-96 AVERAGE PERCENT IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	BASE YEARS - 1991, 93-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 ESTIMATED NUMBER IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT IMMUNIZED	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	60	46	8	91	70	8	51
GRAY	59	66	2	71	74	5	13
GREELEY	16	57	5	18	94	1	66
GREENWOOD	34	37	10	55	72	6	93
HAMILTON	22	66	2	32	88	1	33
HARPER	58	62	3	58	82	3	32
HARVEY	265	65	2	294	78	4	19
HASKELL	35	50	7	34	55	10	8
HODGEMAN	20	61	4	25	80	3	31
JACKSON	127	74	1	118	87	2	18
JEFFERSON	194	67	2	224	79	3	19
JEWELL	37	73	1	32	88	1	20
JOHNSON	3,416	68	1	4,095	83	2	21
KEARNY	74	63	3	65	74	5	17
KINGMAN	64	63	3	65	77	5	21
KIOWA	30	60	4	38	91	1	52
LABETTE	148	44	9	188	62	9	40
LANE	20	56	6	25	85	2	52
LEAVENWORTH	580	66	2	598	73	6	11
LINCOLN	30	79	1	23	78	4	-2
LINN	59	45	9	71	63	9	39
LOGAN	16	47	8	23	87	2	85
LYON	251	53	7	372	86	2	63
MARION	109	60	4	123	76	5	26
MARSHALL	100	57	5	.	.	.	.
MCPHERSON	259	70	1	228	72	7	2
MEADE	24	55	6	44	82	2	50
MIAMI	155	49	8	209	71	7	45
MITCHELL	58	56	6	61	78	4	40
MONTGOMERY	189	40	10	222	55	10	38
MORRIS	54	61	4	57	79	4	29
MORTON	31	49	8	37	69	8	41
NEMAHA	102	69	1	96	86	2	24
NEOSHO	66	29	10	105	53	10	83
NESS	30	64	2	29	79	3	23
NORTON	37	49	8	45	66	9	35
OSAGE	130	59	4	149	72	7	20
OSBORNE	19	48	8	26	82	3	69
OTTAWA	53	64	2	61	94	1	47
PAWNEE	40	45	9	57	78	4	74
PHILLIPS	46	52	7	58	75	5	44
POTTAWATOMIE	162	62	3	182	80	3	30
PRATT	58	53	7	69	71	7	34
RAWLINS	21	56	5	20	71	7	26
RENO	517	64	3	482	70	8	9
REPUBLIC	31	44	9	36	74	6	68
RICE	79	58	5	82	74	6	28
RILEY	393	65	2	400	79	4	22
ROOKS	40	56	6	62	86	2	53
RUSH	26	52	7	31	75	5	44
RUSSELL	56	55	6	48	66	9	21
SALINE	423	66	2	457	74	6	11
SCOTT	51	62	3	58	73	6	17
SEDGWICK	3,234	56	5	3,624	62	9	9
SEWARD	159	38	10	230	53	10	39
SHAWNEE	1,365	68	2	1,381	75	5	10
SHERIDAN	21	72	1	13	88	1	22
SHERMAN	54	55	6	52	89	1	61
SMITH	32	61	4	41	85	2	40
STAFFORD	42	55	6	39	68	8	24
STANTON	32	73	1	29	68	8	-6
STEVENS	33	39	10	39	50	10	28
SUMNER	192	56	6	199	70	8	24
THOMAS	71	65	2	73	74	6	14
TREGO	23	57	5	27	92	1	62
WABAUNSEE	56	62	3	56	79	3	29
WALLACE	24	79	1	20	91	1	15
WASHINGTON	66	62	4	74	77	5	25
WICHITA	23	57	5	31	74	5	30
WILSON	65	41	10	83	68	8	65
WOODSON	18	45	9	20	54	10	20
WYANDOTTE	786	35	10	994	49	10	40
KANSAS	**19,747**	**57**		**22,635**	**70**		**23**

Data are from Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Rates are percentage of kindergartners who were fully immunized by age two, based on a retrospective survey of immunization certificates. No survey was conducted in 1992. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks and counties displaying identical base and current year percentages may have a non-zero percentage change. The number of children immunized is derived from the immunization sample data and kindergarten enrollment figures.

LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES

According to the national *KIDS COUNT* data, the percentage of Kansas live births weighing less than five pounds, eight ounces increased five percent from 1985 to 1995. On the national level, there was a seven-percent increase for the same time period. In 1985, 6.1 percent of Kansas births were low-birth-weight babies, compared to 6.9 percent in 1997. This 13-percent increase means an even greater percentage of babies are predisposed to a variety of neurodevelopmental disorders as well as weaker health conditions and negative cognitive outcomes. Low-birth-weight infants are 25 times more susceptible to cerebral palsy than other infants.[1] On intelligence tests, low-birth-weight children score significantly lower than their peers.[2]

Improvements in medical care for pregnancy and delivery over the past 30 years have had little impact on the percentage of births that are low birth weight in the United States.[3] As noted by some medical doctors, merely increasing the utilization of prenatal care does not necessarily guarantee more positive pregnancy outcomes.[4] For low-income women, improvements in their stressful and impoverished environment as well as access to adequate resources are more critical. Social and environmental disadvantages also appear to have far greater negative effects on the long-term cognitive outcomes for low-birth-weight children than most biological risk factors. These cognitive defects become more obvious as the child ages.[5]

[1] Paneth, Nigel S. (1995, Spring). The problem of low birth weight. *The Future of Children, 5(1).* Spring.
[2] Hack, M., Klein, N. and Taylor, H. (1995). Long-term developmental outcomes of low birth weight infants. *The Future of Children, 5(1).* Spring.
[3] Paneth, Nigel S. (1995) The problem of low birth weight. *The Future of Children, 5(1).* Spring.
[4] Misra, D. and Guyer, B. (1998). Benefits and limitations of prenatal care: From counting visits to measuring content. *JAMA, 279(20),* p. 1661-1662.
[5] Hack, M., Klein, N. and Taylor, H. (1995). Long-term developmental outcomes of low birth weight infants. *The Future of Children, 5(1).* Spring.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 PERCENT OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	10	5.5	4	12	6.5	5	17
ANDERSON	6	6.2	6	6	7.6	8	23
ATCHISON	12	5.5	4	14	6.7	6	23
BARBER	5	8.2	10	3	5.7	4	-31
BARTON	24	6.2	6	39	10.4	10	67
BOURBON	13	6.5	7	12	6.4	5	-2
BROWN	8	5.8	5	4	3.1	2	-47
BUTLER	46	6.4	7	60	8.1	8	27
CHASE	3	7.6	9	5	8.9	9	17
CHAUTAUQUA	2	6.5	7	1	4.0	2	-39
CHEROKEE	22	7.6	9	21	6.7	6	-12
CHEYENNE	1	3.6	1	0	.0	1	-100
CLARK	2	7.0	8	0	.0	1	-100
CLAY	5	5.1	3	3	3.6	2	-29
CLOUD	5	4.9	2	10	10.4	10	111
COFFEY	7	6.5	7	7	6.7	6	2
COMANCHE	2	10.9	10	1	5.6	4	-49
COWLEY	27	5.6	4	24	5.2	3	-8
CRAWFORD	24	5.1	3	26	5.3	4	3
DECATUR	1	3.2	1	0	.0	1	-100
DICKINSON	15	6.5	7	13	6.3	5	-4
DONIPHAN	4	4.7	2	8	7.9	8	67
DOUGLAS	66	6.1	6	89	8.7	9	42
EDWARDS	3	8.1	10	0	.0	1	-100
ELK	2	7.5	9	4	12.9	10	72
ELLIS	19	6.0	6	23	6.9	6	15
ELLSWORTH	3	6.2	6	5	12.2	10	96
FINNEY	48	5.8	5	64	7.0	6	21
FORD	37	6.4	7	44	7.0	6	10
FRANKLIN	18	5.6	4	34	10.0	9	77
GEARY	81	8.6	10	58	9.1	9	7
GOVE	2	6.8	8	4	12.5	10	84
GRAHAM	2	5.7	4	0	.0	1	-100

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 PERCENT OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	7	5.2	3	15	10.2	9	96
GRAY	4	4.6	2	5	6.3	5	35
GREELEY	1	4.2	1	2	11.8	10	182
GREENWOOD	6	7.3	9	9	11.4	10	56
HAMILTON	1	5.1	3	2	6.9	6	36
HARPER	3	4.1	1	3	4.8	3	17
HARVEY	19	4.8	2	18	4.4	3	-9
HASKELL	5	7.2	9	7	8.8	9	22
HODGEMAN	2	8.9	10	1	6.3	5	-30
JACKSON	8	5.1	3	7	4.5	3	-12
JEFFERSON	14	7.3	9	10	5.0	3	-32
JEWELL	1	3.8	1	1	3.4	2	-10
JOHNSON	326	5.6	4	351	5.6	4	2
KEARNY	4	6.1	6	6	7.8	8	29
KINGMAN	6	6.6	7	7	7.4	7	14
KIOWA	3	5.9	5	4	11.1	10	89
LABETTE	20	7.0	8	8	2.8	2	-60
LANE	1	3.1	1	1	5.0	3	60
LEAVENWORTH	56	6.6	8	59	6.8	6	3
LINCOLN	2	6.0	6	0	.0	1	-100
LINN	5	5.7	4	7	7.3	7	28
LOGAN	2	4.7	2	1	3.3	2	-30
LYON	30	6.7	8	32	6.2	5	-7
MARION	5	3.7	1	7	5.4	4	46
MARSHALL	6	5.4	4	5	5.2	3	-5
MCPHERSON	17	5.2	3	19	5.4	4	4
MEADE	4	5.8	5	5	7.6	7	30
MIAMI	20	6.2	6	16	5.4	4	-14
MITCHELL	3	4.6	2	5	6.5	5	42
MONTGOMERY	30	6.8	8	27	6.3	5	-6
MORRIS	4	4.9	2	4	5.8	4	19
MORTON	2	4.5	2	2	3.5	2	-23
NEMAHA	8	6.1	6	7	4.8	3	-21
NEOSHO	11	5.7	4	14	6.8	6	19
NESS	3	7.1	9	2	6.5	5	-10
NORTON	2	3.9	1	4	7.5	7	91
OSAGE	13	6.5	7	19	9.5	9	46
OSBORNE	3	5.7	5	3	7.5	7	31
OTTAWA	5	8.6	10	5	7.9	8	-7
PAWNEE	5	6.6	8	5	7.6	7	15
PHILLIPS	2	2.3	1	2	3.6	2	59
POTTAWATOMIE	16	6.1	6	9	3.5	2	-42
PRATT	6	5.4	4	10	8.4	8	56
RAWLINS	1	5.0	3	2	6.7	6	34
RENO	51	6.5	7	65	8.0	8	23
REPUBLIC	1	2.6	1	0	.0	1	-100
RICE	8	6.8	8	7	6.1	4	-9
RILEY	57	5.9	5	28	3.2	2	-45
ROOKS	5	7.7	9	4	5.9	4	-24
RUSH	2	5.3	3	2	6.7	6	25
RUSSELL	6	8.8	10	1	1.5	2	-83
SALINE	53	7.1	8	56	8.1	8	14
SCOTT	5	7.7	9	9	13.2	10	73
SEDGWICK	516	7.1	9	524	7.3	7	2
SEWARD	25	5.9	5	25	6.0	4	1
SHAWNEE	187	8.0	10	168	7.1	7	-11
SHERIDAN	1	4.4	2	0	.0	1	-100
SHERMAN	5	6.4	7	8	8.6	9	34
SMITH	2	5.3	3	3	8.6	8	62
STAFFORD	4	7.8	9	4	7.3	7	-7
STANTON	2	5.0	3	0	.0	1	-100
STEVENS	4	5.5	4	6	6.2	5	12
SUMNER	23	6.7	8	17	5.2	3	-23
THOMAS	7	6.3	6	8	7.1	7	12
TREGO	2	5.8	5	0	.0	1	-100
WABAUNSEE	4	4.7	2	5	7.1	7	52
WALLACE	1	4.4	2	2	7.7	8	74
WASHINGTON	5	6.4	7	3	4.2	3	-34
WICHITA	3	7.9	10	5	11.9	10	52
WILSON	7	5.9	5	10	8.6	9	47
WOODSON	2	5.9	5	3	10.3	9	75
WYANDOTTE	237	8.7	10	288	10.2	9	18
KANSAS	**2,444**	**6.6**		**2,573**	**6.9**		**5**

Data provided by Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Decile ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive outcome and "10" indicates the most negative outcome. Negative percent change represents improvement.

HEAD START PARTICIPATION

Children between the ages of three and five from families that meet the federal poverty guidelines are eligible for Head Start services. The Head Start combination of direct intensive services to children and referrals to supplemental services reflect the best research and evaluation of how to achieve effective and long-term results for children and their families. In 1998, Head Start will benefit approximately 830,000 children and their families nationwide, including about 38,000 low-income infants and toddlers in Early Head Start. With the Balanced Budget Act of 1996, Head Start will reach President Clinton's goal of serving one million children in 2002.

Our indicator is the number of Head Start slots available for every 100 three-to-five-year-olds in the population whose family income is below the poverty level. This indicator has shown steady improvement in Kansas over the past five years. The overall rate for the state continued to increase in 1998, climbing 17 percent over the average for the previous five years. Cheyenne, Coffee, Kingman, Marion, Norton, Phillips, Pottowatomie, Rawlins, and Smith counties all started first-time programs in 1998. On the other hand, Brown, Jackson, Sedgwick, Sheridan, and Wabaunsee counties experienced significant declines in available Head Start slots for children in poverty. Hopefully these communities will be able to start new programs in the coming year.

[1] Head Start Bureau. (1998). Evaluation of the Comprehensive Child Development Program.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	46	59	4	50	69	4	17
ANDERSON	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
ATCHISON	53	41	6	54	43	7	6
BARBER	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
BARTON	54	32	7	54	33	7	6
BOURBON	46	38	6	50	43	7	13
BROWN	48	62	3	34	45	7	-28
BUTLER	95	56	4	110	65	5	16
CHASE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
CHAUTAUQUA	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
CHEROKEE	110	53	5	110	55	6	4
CHEYENNE	0	0	10	17	114	1	*
CLARK	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
CLAY	60	119	1	60	128	1	7
CLOUD	34	70	3	45	101	2	44
COFFEY	0	0	10	20	114	1	*
COMANCHE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
COWLEY	82	53	5	85	59	5	11
CRAWFORD	107	45	6	107	48	7	8
DECATUR	17	115	1	17	125	1	9
DICKINSON	56	58	4	75	81	3	40
DONIPHAN	40	86	2	40	91	2	6
DOUGLAS	78	27	7	78	27	8	0
EDWARDS	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
ELK	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
ELLIS	88	66	3	86	67	4	2
ELLSWORTH	15	82	2	15	86	3	6
FINNEY	143	76	2	167	85	3	13
FORD	173	104	1	216	129	1	25
FRANKLIN	20	22	7	20	22	8	2
GEARY	191	64	3	239	94	2	49
GOVE	17	114	1	17	124	1	9
GRAHAM	17	63	3	17	71	4	14

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	52	111	1	52	109	2	-2
GRAY	15	48	5	15	50	6	5
GREELEY	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
GREENWOOD	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
HAMILTON	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
HARPER	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
HARVEY	49	58	4	49	60	5	3
HASKELL	10	101	2	10	98	2	-3
HODGEMAN	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
JACKSON	46	88	2	40	77	4	-13
JEFFERSON	34	57	4	34	57	6	0
JEWELL	18	170	1	18	178	1	5
JOHNSON	222	47	5	233	49	6	4
KEARNY	13	44	6	15	51	6	15
KINGMAN	0	0	10	33	82	3	*
KIOWA	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
LABETTE	90	71	3	90	76	4	7
LANE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
LEAVENWORTH	92	41	6	92	42	7	3
LINCOLN	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
LINN	10	29	7	10	29	8	0
LOGAN	17	136	1	17	142	1	4
LYON	76	44	6	80	49	6	11
MARION	0	0	10	45	92	2	*
MARSHALL	20	37	6	20	40	7	8
MCPHERSON	52	55	4	60	66	5	19
MEADE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
MIAMI	40	48	5	40	49	6	1
MITCHELL	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
MONTGOMERY	134	49	5	136	53	6	9
MORRIS	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
MORTON	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
NEMAHA	38	73	2	36	76	4	4
NEOSHO	48	55	4	48	58	5	6
NESS	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
NORTON	0	0	10	27	87	3	*
OSAGE	20	29	7	20	30	8	0
OSBORNE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
OTTAWA	0	0	10	0	0	10	0

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
PAWNEE	18	83	2	18	89	3	7
PHILLIPS	0	0	10	20	98	2	*
POTTAWATOMIE	37	56	4	37	57	6	0
PRATT	0	0	10	30	83	3	*
RAWLINS	0	0	10	17	131	1	*
RENO	128	43	6	167	59	5	36
REPUBLIC	17	68	3	17	73	4	7
RICE	18	22	7	18	24	8	6
RILEY	144	40	6	150	46	7	15
ROOKS	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
RUSH	6	34	7	10	68	4	99
RUSSELL	15	45	5	15	47	7	5
SALINE	122	43	6	172	65	5	49
SCOTT	11	253	1	12	292	1	15
SEDGWICK	857	35	6	714	29	8	-16
SEWARD	70	34	7	70	33	7	-2
SHAWNEE	415	62	4	506	78	3	27
SHERIDAN	17	83	2	6	32	8	-61
SHERMAN	30	62	3	34	76	4	23
SMITH	18	80	2	18	86	3	7
STAFFORD	0	0	10	30	112	2	*
STANTON	10	55	5	10	54	6	-2
STEVENS	10	32	7	10	33	7	1
SUMNER	72	104	1	75	111	2	7
THOMAS	26	49	5	33	67	4	37
TREGO	5	69	3	6	95	2	37
WABAUNSEE	19	83	2	15	68	4	-19
WALLACE	17	103	1	17	106	2	2
WASHINGTON	15	78	2	15	85	3	10
WICHITA	6	60	4	6	63	5	6
WILSON	40	63	3	40	67	5	7
WOODSON	10	50	5	10	53	6	7
WYANDOTTE	775	56	4	854	65	5	16
KANSAS	**5,612**	**46**		**6,155**	**53**		**17**

Head Start data are from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Poverty estimates are created from U.S. Census estimates. Population data are estimated by the U.S. Census. Positive percentage changes indicate improvement.

An * indicates the Head Start Program is new for this county in 1998 and calculation of percent change from base years is not possible.

CHILD CARE AVAILABILITY

Two major trends have combined to make affordable, accessible, reliable, caring and stimulating child care an even higher priority for our families and children. While fathers play a critical role in the care of children, it is mothers who have provided and continue to provide the bulk of child care in our society. Labor force participation among women with preschool-age children has increased from 39 percent in 1975 to 62 percent in 1996 and is estimated to reach 70 percent by the year 2000. As a result of federal and state changes in welfare eligibility requirements, millions of welfare recipients, primarily women with children, are now expected to find and keep jobs, further increasing the demand for quality child care. The development of child care was thought to be of such importance that it was chosen as the central focus of the 1998 national *KIDS COUNT Data Book*.

In Kansas, 65 percent of the mothers with children under age six and 79 percent of the mothers with children six to 17 years of age were in the labor force at the time of the last census in 1990. It is estimated that about 56 percent of children under the age of 13 are likely to need child care while their parents work. In Kansas that would translate into more than 260,000 children in need of child care. The percentage of children receiving economic assistance has fallen from 19 percent in 1994 to 13 percent in 1998 as a result of restrictions in welfare eligibility. Many of these children will now require child care as their mothers move to employment outside the home.

The availability of child care in Kansas continued to make slight increases in 1998. However, the number of slots available per 100 children under age 13 varies from fewer than 15 for the lowest ten percent of counties to more than 35 for the highest ten percent. Such a wide range can only mean that child care options are extremely limited for many children and families in Kansas.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-97 TOTAL CHILD CARE CAPACITY	BASE YEARS - 1994-97 CHILD CARE CAPACITY PER 100 CHILDREN	BASE YEARS - 1994-97 DECILE RANK	JUNE 1998 TOTAL CHILD CARE CAPACITY	JUNE 1998 CHILD CARE CAPACITY PER 100 CHILDREN	JUNE 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	689	25	4	788	30	3	21
ANDERSON	164	12	10	192	14	10	20
ATCHISON	592	19	8	659	22	7	14
BARBER	209	20	8	200	20	7	1
BARTON	1,290	23	5	1,387	26	4	12
BOURBON	549	20	7	517	20	8	-4
BROWN	582	28	3	520	25	5	-8
BUTLER	2,365	20	7	2,180	18	8	-10
CHASE	105	20	7	122	25	5	24
CHAUTAUQUA	76	11	10	64	10	10	-11
CHEROKEE	717	18	8	826	21	7	18
CHEYENNE	121	23	6	122	24	5	6
CLARK	108	26	4	128	31	2	19
CLAY	521	32	2	490	32	2	-2
CLOUD	615	37	1	656	43	1	14
COFFEY	421	26	4	436	28	4	6
COMANCHE	100	29	2	89	28	3	-4
COWLEY	1,372	20	7	1,279	19	8	-3
CRAWFORD	1,277	22	6	1,437	26	4	18
DECATUR	168	26	4	182	29	3	12
DICKINSON	1,118	32	2	1,231	36	1	14
DONIPHAN	226	17	9	296	22	7	34
DOUGLAS	4,277	31	2	4,365	32	2	1
EDWARDS	121	20	7	130	23	6	13
ELK	37	8	10	34	7	10	-6
ELLIS	1,575	33	1	1,516	32	2	-2
ELLSWORTH	257	26	4	280	30	3	15
FINNEY	1,445	16	9	1,657	18	9	11
FORD	1,601	25	4	1,495	24	6	-6
FRANKLIN	1,155	25	5	1,162	25	5	1
GEARY	1,358	22	6	1,278	24	6	11
GOVE	117	21	7	110	20	7	-3
GRAHAM	168	28	3	150	27	4	-5

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-97 TOTAL CHILD CARE CAPACITY	BASE YEARS - 1994-97 CHILD CARE CAPACITY PER 100 CHILDREN	BASE YEARS - 1994-97 DECILE RANK	JUNE 1998 TOTAL CHILD CARE CAPACITY	JUNE 1998 CHILD CARE CAPACITY PER 100 CHILDREN	JUNE 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	392	20	7	317	16	9	-21
GRAY	258	21	6	291	24	5	16
GREELEY	89	22	6	70	18	9	-18
GREENWOOD	240	19	8	211	17	9	-9
HAMILTON	110	27	3	82	21	7	-22
HARPER	309	27	3	307	28	3	4
HARVEY	1,677	29	2	1,581	28	4	-5
HASKELL	164	18	9	176	19	8	6
HODGEMAN	63	14	10	56	13	10	-8
JACKSON	650	28	3	593	26	4	-7
JEFFERSON	795	24	5	838	25	5	3
JEWELL	86	13	10	105	17	9	28
JOHNSON	27,541	36	1	28,648	36	1	1
KEARNY	178	18	9	148	15	10	-15
KINGMAN	223	14	10	213	14	10	-3
KIOWA	220	36	1	158	29	3	-20
LABETTE	1,086	26	4	1,094	27	4	5
LANE	105	24	5	104	26	4	8
LEAVENWORTH	2,037	15	9	2,230	17	9	11
LINCOLN	140	26	4	146	29	3	12
LINN	189	13	10	215	14	10	13
LOGAN	120	21	6	131	25	5	15
LYON	1,367	20	7	1,427	22	7	8
MARION	562	26	4	576	28	3	5
MARSHALL	285	13	10	293	14	10	8
MCPHERSON	1,231	23	5	1,118	22	7	-8
MEADE	155	19	8	150	18	8	-2
MIAMI	1,058	22	6	1,342	28	4	26
MITCHELL	369	31	2	394	34	2	12
MONTGOMERY	1,503	22	6	1,484	23	6	3
MORRIS	206	19	8	188	18	8	-3
MORTON	158	23	6	160	23	6	1
NEMAHA	512	25	5	551	28	3	14
NEOSHO	980	32	2	995	34	2	5
NESS	86	13	10	116	18	9	44
NORTON	261	31	2	272	33	2	7
OSAGE	867	28	3	862	28	3	1
OSBORNE	192	25	4	168	24	6	-4
OTTAWA	297	29	2	232	23	6	-20
PAWNEE	451	37	1	435	38	1	5
PHILLIPS	294	28	3	345	35	2	27
POTTAWATOMI	858	23	5	779	21	7	-10
PRATT	474	28	3	402	24	5	-13
RAWLINS	97	16	9	90	15	9	-3
RENO	2,755	25	5	2,687	25	5	0
REPUBLIC	262	27	3	305	34	2	23
RICE	332	17	9	351	19	8	10
RILEY	2,184	20	7	2,260	22	6	13
ROOKS	303	28	3	366	37	1	30
RUSH	163	30	2	220	43	1	47
RUSSELL	361	29	2	317	27	4	-9
SALINE	3,412	35	1	3,404	36	1	3
SCOTT	327	33	1	362	39	1	17
SEDGWICK	21,074	24	5	21,319	24	5	0
SEWARD	845	18	9	818	17	9	-5
SHAWNEE	10,743	36	1	10,504	36	1	0
SHERIDAN	105	20	7	115	23	6	13
SHERMAN	293	23	5	306	25	4	11
SMITH	182	26	4	252	38	1	49
STAFFORD	195	21	6	150	17	9	-19
STANTON	107	19	8	103	18	8	-5
STEVENS	179	16	9	175	15	10	-3
SUMNER	1,049	20	8	1,008	19	8	-3
THOMAS	564	35	1	522	34	2	-2
TREGO	114	18	8	122	21	7	15
WABAUNSEE	232	18	8	219	17	9	-5
WALLACE	59	16	9	85	24	6	47
WASHINGTON	405	37	1	364	36	2	-4
WICHITA	91	15	9	112	19	8	28
WILSON	369	21	6	370	22	7	4
WOODSON	52	8	10	76	12	10	55
WYANDOTTE	6,179	20	7	7,135	24	6	19
KANSAS	**126,350**	**26**		**130,118**	**27**		**3**

Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Child care capacity includes the number of registered day care homes, licensed day care homes, group day care homes, child care centers, and preschools as of June 1994 through June 1997 for base years and current year June 1998. Population data represent the number of children under age 13 estimated from the the U.S. Census.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Post-secondary education or training refers to enrollment at a non-college institution, two-year college, four-year college or university, or other type of college. School districts' annual survey of high school graduates from last year's graduating class revealed that there was a slight increase, from the base-years period, in the overall percentage of Kansas graduates enrolled in post-secondary education or training, five to six months after graduation. Geary County showed the greatest improvement with a 34-percent increase. Chautauqua had the largest decline with a 29-percent decrease. Among the most populated counties, Wyandotte County showed the greatest improvement with eight percent more high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training. Compared to their previous base-years period, 40 Kansas counties experienced a decline in 1997 compared to 17 counties in 1996.

For many individuals, post-secondary education provides for a wider range of career options and greater financial rewards. With increased technological advances in the workplace, a higher demand for skilled labor has emerged. Today, compared to 50 years ago, a high school education is considered a minimum requirement rather than an asset in the labor force.[1]

Adults with post-secondary education are more likely to participate in the labor force (working or seeking employment) than those with less education. In 1996, approximately 81 percent of adults with a bachelor's degree, ages 25 and over, participated in the work force, compared with 66 percent of high school graduates and 41 percent of those with less than a high school degree. During the same year, the unemployment rate for those with higher education, 25 years and older, was 53 percent less than for high school graduates.[2] In 1992, the average annual earnings for male university graduates were 164 percent of the annual earnings for males with a high school diploma. For female university graduates, the average annual earnings were 170 percent of the annual earnings for female high school graduates.[3]

1. U. S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. (1998, November 3). Dropout rates in the united states: 1996. On-line. http://nces.ed.gov/pubs98/dropout/98250-06.html/#115
2. U. S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. (1998, October 26). Digest of education statistics, 1997. On-line. http://nces.ed.gov/pubs/digest97/d970005.html/#dropouts
3. U. S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. (1998, November 3). Education indicators: An international perspective. On-line. http://nces.ed.gov/NCES/pubs/eiip/eiipid17.html

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1991-96 AVERAGE NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1991-96 PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1991-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER IN SCHOOL TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT IN SCHOOL TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	131	79	5	131	74	7	-6
ANDERSON	64	74	8	64	77	6	4
ATCHISON	115	76	7	94	67	10	-12
BARBER	55	82	3	62	79	5	-3
BARTON	253	79	5	282	82	4	4
BOURBON	132	80	4	126	81	4	1
BROWN	96	79	5	97	76	6	-4
BUTLER	535	77	7	651	80	4	5
CHASE	24	73	8	28	78	6	7
CHAUTAUQUA	30	77	7	19	54	10	-29
CHEROKEE	131	55	10	152	68	9	24
CHEYENNE	39	88	1	51	93	1	5
CLARK	30	89	1	33	89	2	0
CLAY	91	79	5	87	74	8	-7
CLOUD	84	78	6	89	82	4	4
COFFEY	94	75	7	113	78	6	4
COMANCHE	27	82	3	25	86	3	5
COWLEY	294	75	7	320	83	4	11
CRAWFORD	249	72	9	270	74	7	3
DECATUR	36	77	7	55	89	2	15
DICKINSON	187	69	10	187	66	10	-5
DONIPHAN	76	70	9	64	63	10	-10
DOUGLAS	461	72	9	464	60	10	-16
EDWARDS	38	86	2	35	83	4	-3
ELK	34	70	9	37	66	10	-5
ELLIS	203	77	6	224	79	5	2
ELLSWORTH	68	71	9	72	71	9	0
FINNEY	275	80	4	196	68	9	-15
FORD	226	81	4	266	77	6	-4
FRANKLIN	179	68	10	214	70	9	2
GEARY	138	52	10	183	70	9	34
GOVE	41	82	3	51	89	2	9
GRAHAM	36	80	5	36	95	1	19

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1991-96 AVERAGE NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1991-96 PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1991-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER IN SCHOOL TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT IN SCHOOL TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	66	81	4	76	75	7	-7
GRAY	65	85	2	67	86	3	1
GREELEY	18	89	1	15	83	4	-6
GREENWOOD	63	75	7	61	75	7	1
HAMILTON	23	84	2	26	84	3	0
HARPER	65	78	6	55	73	8	-6
HARVEY	266	77	7	299	80	5	4
HASKELL	49	84	2	40	83	4	-1
HODGEMAN	23	87	1	21	78	6	-11
JACKSON	100	70	9	113	69	9	-1
JEFFERSON	163	67	10	209	70	9	5
JEWELL	38	83	3	40	83	4	1
JOHNSON	3,137	83	3	3,574	86	3	3
KEARNY	47	72	8	57	74	7	2
KINGMAN	90	84	2	92	88	2	6
KIOWA	42	83	3	28	78	6	-6
LABETTE	218	78	6	201	76	7	-3
LEAVENWORTH	457	70	9	518	77	6	10
LINCOLN	37	74	8	32	80	5	8
LINN	84	67	10	87	68	10	2
LOGAN	46	82	3	41	95	1	16
LYON	241	70	9	260	73	8	4
MARION	116	78	5	122	75	7	-5
MARSHALL	131	77	6	158	80	5	4
MCPHERSON	240	79	5	245	74	8	-7
MEADE	32	80	4	41	80	4	0
MIAMI	184	76	7	170	70	9	-7
MITCHELL	76	81	4	74	70	9	-13
MONTGOMERY	260	73	8	264	70	9	-3
MORRIS	49	69	10	55	79	5	14
MORTON	37	72	8	45	82	4	13
NEMAHA	107	78	6	121	79	5	0
NEOSHO	148	80	5	145	71	8	-11
NESS	46	84	2	53	90	1	7
NORTON	59	78	6	60	87	2	12
OSAGE	128	67	10	133	62	10	-8
OSBORNE	26	85	2	28	90	1	7
OTTAWA	58	77	6	78	80	5	3

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1991-96 AVERAGE NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1991-96 PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1991-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER IN SCHOOL TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT IN SCHOOL TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
PAWNEE	70	78	6	65	76	7	-3
PHILLIPS	63	79	5	72	83	4	5
POTTAWATOMIE	165	72	9	172	73	8	2
PRATT	93	81	4	102	92	1	13
RAWLINS	31	81	4	58	91	1	12
RENO	441	73	8	417	64	10	-12
REPUBLIC	63	84	2	62	86	3	3
RICE	93	81	4	101	78	6	-3
RILEY	392	88	1	410	83	4	-5
ROOKS	72	84	2	71	74	8	-12
RUSH	41	87	1	35	74	7	-15
RUSSELL	60	76	7	76	86	2	13
SALINE	353	72	8	393	79	5	10
SCOTT	59	85	2	57	89	2	5
SEDGWICK	2,534	73	8	2,586	75	7	2
SEWARD	155	73	8	184	74	8	1
SHAWNEE	1,058	72	9	855	57	10	-21
SHERIDAN	34	89	1	40	93	1	5
SHERMAN	56	76	7	63	83	4	9
SMITH	55	89	1	57	92	1	4
STAFFORD	52	82	3	69	86	3	5
STANTON	28	86	1	25	78	6	-9
STEVENS	61	81	4	64	89	2	9
SUMNER	203	68	10	216	70	9	3
THOMAS	87	86	1	92	85	3	-1
TREGO	37	82	3	40	80	5	-3
WABAUNSEE	60	78	6	72	76	6	-3
WALLACE	24	85	2	23	96	1	13
WASHINGTON	100	81	4	101	89	2	10
WICHITA	33	78	5	33	89	2	14
WILSON	91	71	9	98	74	7	5
WOODSON	30	78	6	38	72	8	-8
WYANDOTTE	920	68	10	939	73	8	8
KANSAS	**19,149**	**75.5**		**20,201**	**75.8**		**.4**

Data provided by the Kansas Department of Education. Information is obtained from the annual survey of graduates conducted by the school districts five to six months after graduation. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

BIRTHS TO MOTHERS WITH LESS THAN A HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE

The challenges confronted by women who have dropped out of high school extend far beyond personal embarrassment. With less than a high school education, many of these women are restricted to low-wage employment, which leads to other personal hardships as well. In 1997, the median annual income for women 25 years old and over with less than a high school education ($8,861) was approximately 35 percent less than those with only a high school education or equivalent ($13,407). For men of the same educational attainment, the median annual income was almost twice that of women.[1] As income rises, the likelihood of being uninsured declines.[2] However, chronic diseases are more prevalent among low-income women.[3]

The additional responsibility of providing for their children compounds the emotional stress and economic hardship for many women without a high school education, especially those who are single parents. Unfortunately, their children suffer as well. Children who live in single-parent households where the parent has less than a high school education are more likely to suffer from poorer health, to exhibit learning and behavioral problems, and to fail in school.[4] This year there were 6,729 births to women without a high school degree, an increase of 161 from 1996. Among these women, 2,875 were under the age of 20. Compared to the previous five-year period, the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree was two percent higher in 1997.

Counties vary widely on this measure with reliable scores ranging from six to 50 percent. A high correlation can be observed between this measure and our measures of economic well-being for the counties. Just as having a child before completing high school increases the risk of the child growing up in poverty, low income is likely to increase the risk of teen births and failure to complete high school.

[1] U. S. Census Bureau. (1998, October 23). Educational attainment. On-line: http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/cb96-155.html.

[2] Bennefield, R. (1997). Health insurance coverage: 1996. *Current Population Reports*. U.S. Bureau of the Census.

[3] Misra, D., and Guyer, B. (1998). Benefits and limitations of prenatal care: From counting visits to measuring content. *JAMA, 279(20)*, 1661-1662.

[4] U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. (1998, October 23). A statistical profile of at-risk children in the united states, no. 168. On-line: http://www.census.gov/dusd/MAB/wp168.pdf#xml=http://blue.census.gov/search97sgi/s97_wrapitle?action

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	30	17	7	33	18	6	5
ANDERSON	17	18	7	19	24	9	36
ATCHISON	34	16	6	30	14	5	-10
BARBER	7	13	4	6	11	3	-11
BARTON	87	22	9	111	30	9	34
BOURBON	36	20	7	37	20	7	1
BROWN	23	17	6	18	14	4	-17
BUTLER	91	13	4	82	11	3	-13
CHASE	9	18	7	10	18	6	1
CHAUTAUQUA	6	14	5	6	24	9	66
CHEROKEE	71	26	9	68	22	8	-15
CHEYENNE	3	12	3	5	16	6	39
CLARK	2	6	1	1	4	1	-33
CLAY	16	16	6	12	14	5	-9
CLOUD	12	10	2	9	9	3	-7
COFFEY	17	16	6	11	10	3	-34
COMANCHE	2	10	2	3	17	6	67
COWLEY	98	20	8	110	24	9	19
CRAWFORD	82	18	7	76	15	5	-12
DECATUR	3	6	1	3	10	3	66
DICKINSON	36	15	6	43	21	8	36
DONIPHAN	16	19	7	20	20	7	4
DOUGLAS	94	9	2	94	9	2	4
EDWARDS	9	20	8	8	28	9	36
ELK	6	20	8	8	26	9	27
ELLIS	14	4	1	27	8	2	109
ELLSWORTH	6	13	4	5	12	4	-5
FINNEY	371	44	10	415	46	10	5
FORD	227	39	10	294	47	10	21
FRANKLIN	60	20	8	65	19	7	-2
GEARY	136	14	5	84	13	4	-8
GOVE	4	11	3	2	6	2	-45
GRAHAM	3	9	2	3	19	7	100

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	59	40	10	69	47	10	19
GRAY	29	32	10	26	33	10	2
GREELEY	4	22	9	4	24	8	6
GREENWOOD	16	22	9	12	15	5	-32
HAMILTON	4	9	2	11	39	10	352
HARPER	14	17	7	14	22	8	32
HARVEY	62	15	5	63	15	5	1
HASKELL	25	32	10	31	39	10	22
HODGEMAN	3	14	5	0	0	1	-100
JACKSON	22	14	5	18	12	3	-17
JEFFERSON	21	11	3	30	15	5	40
JEWELL	3	8	2	2	7	2	-11
JOHNSON	292	6	1	345	6	1	-1
KEARNY	24	37	10	32	42	10	13
KINGMAN	15	14	5	13	14	4	3
KIOWA	7	19	7	7	19	7	1
LABETTE	69	25	9	62	22	8	-14
LANE	3	9	2	1	5	1	-47
LEAVENWORTH	106	13	4	115	13	4	2
LINCOLN	2	6	1	3	10	3	64
LINN	13	15	6	17	18	6	16
LOGAN	4	10	3	0	0	1	-100
LYON	126	26	9	135	27	9	6
MARION	21	15	5	16	12	4	-15
MARSHALL	15	12	4	18	19	7	49
MCPHERSON	52	15	6	66	19	7	24
MEADE	16	24	9	13	20	8	-18
MIAMI	45	13	4	33	11	3	-15
MITCHELL	7	9	2	7	9	2	1
MONTGOMERY	107	24	9	98	23	8	-5
MORRIS	14	17	7	9	13	4	-25
MORTON	16	27	9	11	19	7	-28
NEMAHA	6	5	1	8	6	1	22
NEOSHO	38	20	8	42	20	8	3
NESS	5	14	5	5	16	6	13
NORTON	6	11	3	0	0	1	-100
OSAGE	22	11	3	33	16	6	52
OSBORNE	5	12	4	6	15	5	22
OTTAWA	7	11	3	4	6	2	-43
PAWNEE	13	16	6	10	15	5	-4
PHILLIPS	7	12	4	7	13	4	5
POTTAWATOMIE	17	6	1	22	9	2	47
PRATT	17	14	4	18	15	5	12
RAWLINS	3	11	3	5	17	6	56
RENO	165	21	8	190	23	8	11
REPUBLIC	7	15	6	4	8	2	-46
RICE	19	15	5	18	16	5	5
RILEY	69	8	1	59	7	2	-9
ROOKS	5	8	2	5	7	2	-6
RUSH	4	12	4	1	3	1	-73
RUSSELL	11	16	6	7	11	3	-35
SALINE	128	17	7	130	19	7	12
SCOTT	14	22	9	21	31	9	39
SEDGWICK	1,457	20	8	1,480	21	8	1
SEWARD	193	44	10	209	50	10	13
SHAWNEE	429	18	7	419	18	6	-4
SHERIDAN	1	7	1	1	4	1	-36
SHERMAN	16	21	8	16	17	6	-19
SMITH	5	13	4	6	17	6	37
STAFFORD	11	23	9	11	20	8	-13
STANTON	12	30	10	16	35	10	15
STEVENS	25	30	10	31	32	9	8
SUMNER	55	16	6	45	14	4	-15
THOMAS	12	10	3	14	12	4	18
TREGO	3	8	2	4	12	4	44
WABAUNSEE	7	9	2	5	7	2	-19
WALLACE	3	12	3	5	19	7	64
WASHINGTON	5	6	1	4	6	1	-13
WICHITA	9	22	8	17	40	10	84
WILSON	25	20	8	29	25	9	24
WOODSON	6	14	5	3	10	3	-24
WYANDOTTE	796	29	10	820	29	9	0
KANSAS	**6,480**	**17.8**		**6,729**	**18.2**		**2**

Data provided by Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Decile ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive outcome and "10" indicates the most negative outcome. Negative percent change represents improvement.

STUDENTS GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL

Completion of high school is a valuable educational accomplishment that serves as an entryway into the work force as well as further academic and training opportunities. Education is one of the most important factors that determines annual earnings that, in turn, are a direct link to one's socioeconomic status.[1] Significant differences can be seen between the median income of men, ages 25 and older, with a high school education ($25,453), and those with less than a high school education ($16,818). A dramatic difference in earnings can also be seen for women, ages 25 and older, with a high school education ($13,407) and those without ($8,861).[2] The 1996 unemployment rate for adults, ages 25 and older, with less than a high school education was 8.7 percent compared with 4.7 percent for those with a high school education.[3] With numerous technological advances, the importance of completing high school has become even more critical for one's successful participation in the work force.

In 1997, the Kansas graduation rate was 81 percent. It is troubling to see that 51 Kansas counties suffered a decline in graduation rate from the previous year. Seven counties had a graduation rate of less than 75 percent: Allen, Cherokee, Finney, Wyandotte, Ford, Geary, and Sedgwick. Of these, the last three showed improvement from 1996 in graduation rates. Wichita County had the greatest decline with 15 percent. With a 19-percent increase, Meade County showed the greatest increase. The counties with the highest graduation rates are Cheyenne and Comanche, with a 98 percent and 97 percent graduation rate respectively. Finney County suffered the lowest graduation rate with 56 percent.

A survey based on data spanning a three-year period (1994-1996) showed that the Kansas high school completion rate, 91.6 percent, was higher than the national mean, 85.8 percent. Respondents ages 18 to 24 were recognized as having high school credentials if they received a regular diploma or passed a high school equivalency examination.[4]

1 U. S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. (1998, November 3). 'Education indicators: an international perspective.' On-line: http://nces.ed.gov/NCES/pubs/eiip/eiipid17.html.

2 U. S. Census Bureau. (1998, October 26). Educational attainment. On-line: http://www.census.gov/hhes/income/histinc/p13.html.

3 U. S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. (1998, October 26). Digest of education statistics, 1997. On-line: http://nces.ed.gov/pubs/digest97/d970005.html#dropouts.

4 U. S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. (1998, November 3). Dropout rates in the united states, 1996. On-line: http://nces.ed.gov/pubs98/dropout/98250-06.html#115.

COUNTY	BASE YEAR - 1996 AVERAGE NUMBER OF GRADUATES	BASE YEAR - 1996 GRADUATION PERCENT	BASE YEAR - 1996 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF GRADUATES	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 GRADUATION PERCENT	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	142	79	9	177	72	10	-9
ANDERSON	102	89	5	83	86	7	-3
ATCHISON	157	81	9	140	79	9	-3
BARBER	79	98	1	78	95	2	-2
BARTON	346	82	8	343	80	9	-2
BOURBON	157	78	9	155	78	9	0
BROWN	144	87	6	127	89	5	2
BUTLER	744	87	6	809	88	6	2
CHASE	37	77	10	36	84	7	9
CHAUTAUQUA	39	91	4	35	80	9	-12
CHEROKEE	251	82	8	222	74	10	-10
CHEYENNE	42	89	5	55	98	1	10
CLARK	37	97	2	37	97	1	0
CLAY	125	92	4	118	91	5	-1
CLOUD	111	93	3	109	89	6	-5
COFFEY	149	94	3	145	92	4	-3
COMANCHE	31	94	3	29	97	1	3
COWLEY	383	83	7	385	81	8	-2
CRAWFORD	357	78	9	364	80	9	2
DECATUR	42	100	1	62	95	2	-5
DICKINSON	290	85	7	283	84	7	-1
DONIPHAN	107	94	3	101	84	7	-10
DOUGLAS	652	83	8	770	83	8	0
EDWARDS	51	86	6	42	81	8	-7
ELK	44	79	9	56	92	4	17
ELLIS	268	88	5	285	93	3	5
ELLSWORTH	109	96	2	101	95	2	-1
FINNEY	326	60	10	287	56	10	-7
FORD	279	68	10	344	73	10	8
FRANKLIN	270	83	8	307	89	6	7
GEARY	239	64	10	261	69	10	7
GOVE	53	98	1	57	97	2	-2
GRAHAM	47	89	5	38	93	3	5

COUNTY	BASE YEAR - 1996 AVERAGE NUMBER OF GRADUATES	BASE YEAR - 1996 GRADUATION PERCENT	BASE YEAR - 1996 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF GRADUATES	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 GRADUATION PERCENT	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	85	81	8	101	81	8	0
GRAY	83	91	4	78	96	2	6
GREELEY	23	96	3	18	95	3	-1
GREENWOOD	106	88	6	81	90	5	3
HAMILTON	32	100	1	31	97	1	-3
HARPER	77	83	8	75	86	7	4
HARVEY	335	83	7	374	82	8	-2
HASKELL	48	91	5	48	84	7	-7
HODGEMAN	28	97	2	27	96	2	0
JACKSON	155	88	5	163	89	6	1
JEFFERSON	269	88	5	300	86	7	-2
JEWELL	55	98	1	48	96	2	-2
JOHNSON	3,940	88	6	4,172	89	6	1
KEARNY	69	82	8	77	83	8	1
KINGMAN	106	88	6	104	85	7	-3
KIOWA	48	96	2	36	90	5	-6
LABETTE	279	82	8	266	80	9	-2
LANE	40	98	1	37	97	1	0
LEAVENWORTH	724	83	8	673	82	8	-1
LINCOLN	44	96	3	40	91	5	-5
LINN	125	91	4	128	88	6	-3
LOGAN	53	98	1	43	91	4	-7
LYON	356	77	9	355	84	7	8
MARION	159	88	5	163	87	6	-2
MARSHALL	179	85	7	197	90	5	7
MCPHERSON	334	84	7	333	89	6	6
MEADE	35	80	9	51	94	3	19
MIAMI	245	82	8	242	80	8	-3
MITCHELL	95	93	4	105	95	3	2
MONTGOMERY	359	75	10	376	76	10	2
MORRIS	75	94	3	70	91	5	-3
MORTON	41	76	10	55	85	7	11
NEMAHA	133	96	2	154	96	2	-1
NEOSHO	186	81	9	203	77	9	-4
NESS	54	95	3	59	97	1	2
NORTON	56	86	6	69	87	6	1
OSAGE	203	86	6	216	92	4	7
OSBORNE	23	92	4	31	91	4	-1
OTTAWA	67	91	5	98	92	4	1

COUNTY	BASE YEAR - 1996 AVERAGE NUMBER OF GRADUATES	BASE YEAR - 1996 GRADUATION PERCENT	BASE YEAR - 1996 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF GRADUATES	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 GRADUATION PERCENT	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
PAWNEE	96	80	9	86	92	3	16
PHILLIPS	85	97	2	87	96	2	-1
POTTAWATOMIE	244	89	5	235	91	4	2
PRATT	122	85	7	111	90	5	5
RAWLINS	47	94	3	64	98	1	5
RENO	597	80	9	651	80	9	-1
REPUBLIC	84	91	4	72	91	4	0
RICE	126	91	4	129	88	6	-3
RILEY	416	84	7	492	91	5	8
ROOKS	99	96	2	96	96	2	0
RUSH	51	98	1	47	98	1	0
RUSSELL	73	85	7	88	80	9	-6
SALINE	482	78	9	495	79	9	2
SCOTT	74	86	6	64	85	7	-1
SEDGWICK	3,337	68	10	3,466	70	10	2
SEWARD	237	76	10	249	77	10	2
SHAWNEE	1,437	74	10	1,507	76	10	4
SHERIDAN	33	100	1	43	98	1	-2
SHERMAN	71	86	6	76	89	5	5
SMITH	66	97	2	62	97	1	0
STAFFORD	67	84	7	80	94	3	12
STANTON	34	100	1	32	91	4	-9
STEVENS	77	91	4	72	82	8	-10
SUMNER	295	91	4	309	91	4	0
THOMAS	109	85	7	108	89	6	4
TREGO	54	96	2	50	94	3	-2
WABAUNSEE	96	92	4	95	95	3	3
WALLACE	28	97	2	24	96	2	-1
WASHINGTON	121	96	2	113	93	3	-3
WICHITA	54	95	3	37	80	8	-15
WILSON	141	83	7	132	79	9	-6
WOODSON	34	87	6	53	91	4	5
WYANDOTTE	1,365	71	10	1,285	68	10	-4
KANSAS	**25,786**	**80**		**26,648**	**81**		**1**

Data are from Kansas State Board of Education. Rates are calculated by dividing the number of graduates by the sum of graduates and dropouts from grades nine through 12. Positive percent changes indicate improvement. Migration into or out of the school district between ninth and 12th grade may account for a proportion of increases or decreases in some rates. Currently there are no statewide data available that would allow for an accurate determination of the influence of migration.

OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT

Nearly 6,000 Kansas children and youth were in state custody and living outside their own homes at some time in the month of June 1998. The majority of these children were in placement through no fault of their own but as victims of abuse and neglect within their communities and families. While there clearly is a current and continuing need for out-of-home placement for some children and families as part of a continuum of care, there is also a sense that the continued need for placement in out-of-home settings represents a failure. It is a failure to prevent the abuse or neglect or behavior problems from occurring in the first place. It is also a failure to provide adequate and effective services to the child and family to maintain the child in the family and community of origin, and it may represent a failure to quickly find a permanent placement for the child through reunification or adoption.

In 1995, Kansas had the sixth highest out-of-home placement rate in the country.[1] Our data show that the rate has risen slightly since that time. In the last year, there have been some dramatic shifts in the use of out-of-home placements in some counties including some of the larger Kansas counties. Sedgwick, Finney, and Reno counties have experienced significant increases in the use of out-of-home care ranging from 33 to 77 percent. On the other hand, Johnson County reduced its rate by 23 percent and Wyandotte County cut its rate in half. This wide variation in experiences provides an opportunity to learn what factors are driving these differences and how this knowledge can be applied to keep children healthy and safe in their own homes.

[1] Petit, M.R., and Curtis, P.A. (1997). 1997 CWLA Stat Book. Child abuse and neglect: A look at the states. Child Welfare League of America, Washington, D.C.

	BASE YEARS - JUNE 1994-JUNE 1997			JUNE 1998			
COUNTY	NUMBER IN PLACEMENT	PLACEMENT RATE	DECILE RANK	NUMBER IN PLACEMENT	PLACEMENT RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	67	15	10	41	10	7	-37
ANDERSON	10	5	5	24	11	8	133
ATCHISON	39	8	8	97	19	10	147
BARBER	7	5	5	17	11	9	142
BARTON	56	7	7	85	10	8	55
BOURBON	30	7	7	44	10	8	47
BROWN	22	7	7	32	10	8	45
BUTLER	80	4	5	42	2	3	-50
CHASE	7	9	9	6	8	7	-8
CHATAUQUA	3	3	3	8	7	6	149
CHEROKEE	48	7	8	54	8	7	13
CHEYENNE	3	3	3	*	*	*	*
CLARK	0	0	1	1	2	2	291
CLAY	13	5	6	3	1	2	-76
CLOUD	16	6	6	42	16	10	179
COFFEY	7	3	2	4	2	2	-43
COMANCHE	2	4	4	3	6	6	59
COWLEY	67	6	7	34	3	4	-48
CRAWFORD	134	14	10	89	9	7	-32
DECATUR	2	2	2	9	10	8	312
DICKINSON	16	3	3	6	1	2	-62
DONIPHAN	9	4	4	7	3	4	-20
DOUGLAS	222	9	9	214	8	7	-7
EDWARDS	4	4	4	1	1	2	-73
ELK	7	9	9	13	17	10	97
ELLIS	38	5	5	57	7	6	50
ELLSWORTH	7	4	5	3	2	3	-55
FINNEY	138	10	10	255	18	10	77
FORD	63	7	7	94	10	7	47
FRANKLIN	59	8	9	50	7	6	-17
GEARY	69	7	8	51	6	6	-14
GOVE	3	3	2	1	1	2	-60
GRAHAM	10	11	10	1	1	2	-89

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - JUNE 1994-JUNE 1997 NUMBER IN PLACEMENT	PLACEMENT RATE	DECILE RANK	JUNE 1998 NUMBER IN PLACEMENT	PLACEMENT RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	10	3	3	32	11	8	208
GRAY	2	1	1	8	4	5	300
GREELY	1	1	1	6	11	8	1125
GREENWOOD	9	4	5	30	14	9	245
HAMILTON	5	8	8	*	*	*	*
HARPER	7	4	4	19	11	9	187
HARVEY	84	9	10	32	3	4	-63
HASKELL	2	2	1	*	*	*	*
HODGEMAN	1	2	1	*	*	*	*
JACKSON	19	5	6	23	6	6	22
JEFFERSON	31	6	7	67	13	9	110
JEWELL	3	2	2	2	2	3	-19
JOHNSON	252	2	2	204	2	3	-23
KEARNY	10	6	7	36	24	10	265
KINGMAN	12	5	5	13	5	5	6
KIOWA	8	8	8	2	2	3	-72
LABETTE	58	9	9	27	4	5	-53
LANE	2	3	3	*	*	*	*
LEAVENWORTH	104	5	6	133	7	6	27
LINCOLN	5	5	6	10	12	9	131
LINN	8	3	3	4	2	3	-50
LOGAN	3	4	4	9	10	8	186
LYON	69	6	7	48	4	5	-29
MARION	17	5	6	10	3	4	-39
MARSHALL	13	4	4	15	5	5	23
MCPHERSON	36	4	5	32	4	5	-10
MEADE	6	5	5	4	3	4	-31
MIAMI	29	4	4	10	1	2	-67
MITCHELL	9	4	5	23	12	9	161
MONTGOMERY	91	8	9	91	9	7	2
MORRIS	13	8	8	3	2	3	-77
MORTON	4	4	4	4	4	5	-2
NEMAHA	7	2	1	*	*	*	*
NEOSHO	42	9	9	47	10	8	12
NESS	2	2	2	1	1	2	-53
NORTON	4	3	2	8	6	6	113
OSAGE	14	3	3	34	7	6	138
OSBORNE	3	2	2	3	3	4	27
OTTAWA	9	6	6	23	15	10	161
PAWNEE	19	9	9	31	16	10	78
PHILLIPS	8	5	6	6	4	5	-23
POTTAWATOMIE	9	2	1	17	3	4	88
PRATT	14	5	6	7	3	4	-49
RAWLINS	2	2	2	*	*	*	*
RENO	186	10	10	259	15	10	39
REPUBLIC	12	8	8	8	6	5	-28
RICE	23	8	8	64	23	10	189
RILEY	80	4	4	64	3	4	-15
ROOKS	6	3	3	*	*	*	*
RUSH	1	1	1	*	*	*	*
RUSSELL	11	6	6	17	9	7	60
SALINE	109	7	8	89	6	6	-18
SCOTT	15	9	10	9	6	6	-36
SEDGWICK	1,179	9	9	1,616	12	9	33
SEWARD	58	8	9	25	3	5	-59
SHAWNEE	558	12	10	510	11	9	-9
SHERIDAN	1	1	1	*	*	*	*
SHERMAN	14	7	7	4	2	3	-71
SMITH	7	6	7	3	3	4	-57
STAFFORD	13	9	9	1	1	2	-92
STANTON	2	3	2	2	2	3	-13
STEVENS	5	3	2	25	14	9	412
SUMNER	102	12	10	104	12	9	1
THOMAS	10	4	4	23	9	7	131
TREGO	6	6	7	*	*	*	*
WABAUNSEE	6	3	3	27	14	9	344
WALLACE	2	3	3	5	9	7	147
WASHINGTON	2	1	1	3	2	3	38
WICHITA	6	6	6	23	25	10	324
WILSON	23	8	8	8	3	4	-64
WOODSON	4	4	4	10	10	8	173
WYANDOTTE	903	19	10	435	9	7	-51
KANSAS	**5,643**	**7.4**		**5,796**	**7.5**		**1**

Placement data are from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Population data are estimated from the U.S. census. An asterisk represents counties in which no children were placed out of the home for that year. Rates are calculated per 1,000 children age 18 and under.

TEEN VIOLENT DEATHS

Teen violent death is defined as deaths among youth, ranging in age from 15 to 19, caused by accidents, suicides, and homicides. A national school-based survey conducted in 1997 revealed that high-school-age students engage in behaviors that increase their likelihood of becoming a victim of teen violent death.[1] During the 30 days preceding the survey, 19 percent of the students had rarely or never worn a seat belt, 51 percent had drunk alcohol, 26 percent had used marijuana, and 18 percent had carried a weapon. It also disclosed that eight percent of the students surveyed had attempted suicide during the 12 months preceding the survey.[1] The most recent national data indicate the Kansas teen violent death rate declined nine percent from 1985 to 1995 while the national rate rose three percent.[2]

In 1997, the Kansas teen violent death rate was 68.3 (per 100,000 teens), an improvement of 12.2 percent from the base-years period. Motor vehicle accidents were the leading cause of teen violent deaths with a rate of 35.6. Firearms were the second major cause with a rate of 22.3.[3] For those Kansas counties with percent changes from the base-years period, more than 60 percent show a decline in the rate of violent deaths among teens. Caution should be used in interpreting dramatic rate increases for less populated counties like Edwards, Meade and Pawnee. Each of these counties had one teen violent death for the year while averaging only one death every two or more years.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF VIOLENT TEEN DEATHS	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF VIOLENT TEEN DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	.6	53.1	3	0	+	+	+
ANDERSON	1.0	181.6	9	2	328.4	9	81
ATCHISON	1.4	109.2	7	0	+	+	+
BARBER	.4	125.1	8	2	583.1	10	366
BARTON	1.2	61.8	4	2	98.1	7	59
BOURBON	.8	66.6	4	1	75.6	7	14
BROWN	1.0	135.9	8	0	+	+	+
BUTLER	2.6	61.9	4	2	41.0	7	-34
CHASE	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
CHAUTAUQUA	.0	+	+	1	340.1	10	*
CHEROKEE	1.6	94.9	6	3	160.3	8	69
CHEYENNE	1.0	551.9	10	0	+	+	+
CLARK	.2	142.0	8	0	+	+	+
CLAY	.6	107.3	7	0	+	+	+
CLOUD	.4	48.4	3	0	+	+	+
COFFEY	.6	95.9	6	0	+	+	+
COMANCHE	.0	+	+	0	+	+	0
COWLEY	2.0	75.6	5	1	34.6	7	-54
CRAWFORD	1.8	65.7	4	1	33.8	6	-49
DECATUR	.4	230.1	10	1	546.4	10	137
DICKINSON	.8	60.7	4	1	70.2	7	16
DONIPHAN	1.0	136.1	8	0	+	+	+
DOUGLAS	3.2	35.4	2	3	30.1	6	-15
EDWARDS	.2	100.8	7	1	476.2	10	372
ELK	.0	+	+	1	505.1	10	*
ELLIS	.8	35.0	2	1	40.6	7	16
ELLSWORTH	.2	48.1	3	0	+	+	+
FINNEY	1.8	62.8	4	1	31.6	6	-50
FORD	2.6	114.2	7	3	120.3	8	5
FRANKLIN	1.2	75.5	5	0	.0	6	-100
GEARY	3.0	136.7	8	0	.0	6	-100
GOVE	.2	98.0	7	0	+	+	+
GRAHAM	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+

[1] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (1998, August 14). *Morbidity and mortality weekly report: Youth risk behavior surveillance—United States, 1997, 47(SS-3).*

[2] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (1998). *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 1998.* Baltimore, MD.

Data provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF VIOLENT TEEN DEATHS	TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE	DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF VIOLENT TEEN DEATHS	TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	.6	97.5	7	0	+	+	+
GRAY	.8	188.3	9	0	+	+	+
GREELEY	.2	206.2	10	0	+	+	+
GREENWOOD	1.0	183.5	9	0	+	+	+
HAMILTON	.2	135.9	8	0	+	+	+
HARPER	1.0	260.0	10	0	+	+	+
HARVEY	1.8	84.3	6	4	168.6	9	100
HASKELL	.4	126.2	8	0	+	+	+
HODGEMAN	.4	296.7	10	0	+	+	+
JACKSON	.8	93.5	6	1	104.9	8	12
JEFFERSON	1.0	86.7	6	0	+	+	+
JEWELL	.0	+	+	0	+	+	0
JOHNSON	7.8	30.5	2	9	30.3	6	-1
KEARNY	.8	253.6	10	0	+	+	+
KINGMAN	1.0	172.5	9	2	316.0	9	83
KIOWA	.4	144.2	8	0	+	+	+
LABETTE	.8	44.0	2	2	102.5	8	133
LANE	.0	+	+	0	+	+	0
LEAVENWORTH	3.8	84.2	6	1	19.9	6	-76
LINCOLN	.4	200.0	9	0	+	+	+
LINN	.4	66.7	4	0	+	+	+
LOGAN	.0	+	+	0	+	+	0
LYON	1.6	53.7	3	2	62.9	7	17
MARION	.6	76.4	5	1	115.9	8	52
MARSHALL	.4	64.4	4	0	+	+	+
MCPHERSON	1.0	60.1	4	3	162.4	8	170
MEADE	.2	74.7	5	1	339.0	9	354
MIAMI	2.0	107.6	7	2	94.1	7	-13
MITCHELL	.6	112.9	7	1	176.4	9	56
MONTGOMERY	1.0	35.7	2	4	134.1	8	276
MORRIS	.2	51.6	3	0	+	+	+
MORTON	.4	151.5	9	1	347.2	10	129
NEMAHA	.4	58.4	3	1	136.2	8	133
NEOSHO	1.4	116.8	7	0	+	+	+
NESS	.2	104.4	7	0	+	+	+
NORTON	1.6	394.5	10	1	225.7	9	-43
OSAGE	1.0	89.6	6	1	78.4	7	-12
OSBORNE	.4	153.1	9	1	365.0	10	138
OTTAWA	.2	59.2	4	0	+	+	+

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-96 AVERAGE NUMBER OF VIOLENT TEEN DEATHS	TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE	DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF VIOLENT TEEN DEATHS	TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
PAWNEE	.2	35.7	2	1	177.0	9	396
PHILLIPS	.2	53.1	3	0	+	+	+
POTTAWATOMIE	1.0	78.4	5	0	+	+	+
PRATT	.6	81.0	5	0	+	+	+
RAWLINS	.4	198.8	9	0	+	+	+
RENO	3.6	80.8	5	5	102.5	8	27
REPUBLIC	.2	57.8	3	0	+	+	+
RICE	.4	67.4	5	3	467.3	10	593
RILEY	1.4	19.7	2	0	.0	6	-100
ROOKS	.2	55.2	3	0	+	+	+
RUSH	.4	209.9	10	0	+	+	+
RUSSELL	.6	135.2	8	1	208.3	9	54
SALINE	2.6	74.1	5	4	103.8	8	40
SCOTT	.6	154.8	9	0	+	+	+
SEDGWICK	26.2	90.6	6	23	70.8	7	-22
SEWARD	1.4	93.7	6	3	178.7	9	91
SHAWNEE	10.4	91.8	6	5	40.4	7	-56
SHERIDAN	.0	+	+	0	+	+	0
SHERMAN	.8	156.4	9	1	184.2	9	18
SMITH	.4	146.4	9	0	+	+	+
STAFFORD	.2	66.0	4	0	+	+	+
STANTON	.0	+	+	1	574.7	10	*
STEVENS	.4	106.6	7	0	+	+	+
SUMNER	1.8	94.1	6	0	.0	6	-100
THOMAS	.2	26.3	2	0	+	+	+
TREGO	.0	+	+	0	+	+	0
WABAUNSEE	.2	43.6	2	0	+	+	+
WALLACE	.0	+	+	2	1,197.6	10	*
WASHINGTON	.2	45.7	3	0	+	+	+
WICHITA	.4	203.3	10	0	+	+	+
WILSON	1.8	253.2	10	0	+	+	+
WOODSON	.2	80.8	5	0	+	+	+
WYANDOTTE	16.2	140.5	8	24	194.8	9	39
KANSAS	**143**	**77.8**		**138**	**68.3**		**-12.2**

Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The base years consist of the average of years 1992 through 1996. Teen violent death rates represent the number of violent deaths per 100,000 children age 15-19. Negative change scores indicate improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks. Population data are estimates made by the U.S. Census Bureau.

+ Rates are not calculated for counties with too few children for meaningful interpretation.

* Zero events in the base years prevent calculation of percent change scores.

REPORTED CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Newspaper headlines describing unbelievable horror stories of child fatalities resulting from the hands of parents or cases of extreme neglect or exploitation of children serve as all-too-frequent reminders of the personal tragedy of child abuse and neglect in our communities. But as horrible as these incidents are, they fail to describe the magnitude of the problem of child abuse and neglect as it impacts tens of thousands of other children and families in our state. Child abuse and neglect represents an extreme form of family dysfunction but also a serious social problem for our communities.

Based on an annual survey of child welfare officials in all 50 states and the District of Columbia conducted by the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, more than three million children were reported as victims of child abuse and neglect in 1997. This figure represents a 1.7-percent increase over the previous year. Nationwide, the rate of children reported for child abuse or neglect increased four percent during this period, from 45 per 1,000 children in 1992 to 47 per 1,000 in 1997. Overall, the total number of reports nationwide has increased 41 percent since 1988.

Kansas showed a dramatic increase of approximately 20 percent in both the number of reports annually and the rate of children reported in 1997 compared to the previous year. Data for this year's book were obtained from a new state data system and part of the increase in reports could be a function of better recordkeeping and processing. Because of data problems that existed through much of this decade, we have limited baseline data to compute trends in child abuse and neglect reporting. However, the 1997 rate of 47 per 1,000 children represents an 18-percent increase in the rate observed ten years ago in Kansas.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-96 NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES	BASE YEARS - 1995-96 REPORTED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	BASE YEARS - 1995-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 REPORTED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	85	20.3	4	249	60.6	9	198
ANDERSON	29	13.3	3	72	32.9	5	148
ATCHISON	97	20.1	3	131	27.1	3	35
BARBER	13	8.3	1	57	38.5	5	366
BARTON	287	36.0	6	229	29.1	4	-19
BOURBON	56	13.6	3	176	42.7	6	213
BROWN	42	13.5	3	44	14.1	1	5
BUTLER	537	30.7	5	703	39.3	5	28
CHASE	17	22.0	4	14	18.5	2	-16
CHAUTAUQUA	57	53.3	9	78	74.2	10	39
CHEROKEE	281	45.2	8	558	89.9	10	99
CHEYENNE	7	8.8	1	19	24.0	3	172
CLARK	8	12.2	2	12	19.2	2	58
CLAY	164	67.1	10	72	29.9	4	-55
CLOUD	120	47.5	8	115	46.7	7	-2
COFFEY	123	50.1	9	72	29.5	4	-41
COMANCHE	7	13.4	3	22	43.7	6	225
COWLEY	543	52.6	9	597	58.2	8	11
CRAWFORD	699	77.7	10	759	85.8	10	10
DECATUR	35	37.5	6	23	25.4	3	-32
DICKINSON	240	44.7	8	266	50.2	8	12
DONIPHAN	43	20.2	3	20	9.4	1	-54
DOUGLAS	1,067	50.7	9	973	45.2	7	-11
EDWARDS	59	64.8	10	44	49.5	8	-24
ELK	35	47.3	8	65	88.3	10	87
ELLIS	234	32.2	5	132	18.1	2	-44
ELLSWORTH	103	67.0	10	27	18.0	2	-73
FINNEY	123	9.6	2	551	42.0	6	339
FORD	347	38.1	7	536	58.4	9	53
FRANKLIN	243	35.5	6	286	41.2	6	16
GEARY	644	75.2	10	622	80.8	10	7
GOVE	20	23.3	4	15	17.6	2	-24
GRAHAM	29	32.9	6	10	11.6	1	-65

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-96 NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES	BASE YEARS - 1995-96 REPORTED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	BASE YEARS - 1995-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 REPORTED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	17	5.9	1	101	35.4	5	501
GRAY	15	8.2	1	44	24.2	3	193
GREELEY	•	•	•	8	14.5	2	•
GREENWOOD	60	29.6	5	84	41.9	6	41
HAMILTON	•	•	•	29	47.3	7	•
HARPER	20	11.8	2	103	61.4	9	422
HARVEY	185	21.2	4	200	22.6	3	7
HASKELL	8	5.9	1	49	35.7	5	501
HODGEMAN	6	9.3	2	5	7.8	1	-16
JACKSON	125	35.6	6	169	48.1	7	35
JEFFERSON	178	36.0	6	273	54.1	8	50
JEWELL	19	19.3	3	47	48.2	7	150
JOHNSON	2,064	18.4	3	2,361	20.4	2	11
KEARNY	•	•	•	71	48.3	7	•
KINGMAN	60	24.6	5	122	50.6	8	105
KIOWA	32	32.6	5	46	48.9	7	50
LABETTE	558	87.1	10	508	80.0	10	-8
LANE	4	6.2	1	15	24.0	3	289
LEAVENWORTH	503	25.8	5	709	36.2	5	40
LINCOLN	16	18.3	3	32	38.8	5	112
LINN	56	23.8	4	167	69.5	9	192
LOGAN	6	6.4	1	25	29.9	4	367
LYON	339	33.9	6	278	28.2	4	-17
MARION	104	32.2	5	123	38.4	5	19
MARSHALL	65	21.4	4	63	21.1	2	-1
MCPHERSON	303	39.6	7	323	42.2	6	6
MEADE	16	12.5	2	47	37.8	5	203
MIAMI	347	47.0	8	310	41.1	6	-13
MITCHELL	20	10.5	2	52	27.6	4	164
MONTGOMERY	597	58.8	9	875	87.2	10	48
MORRIS	104	63.4	9	87	54.1	8	-15
MORTON	6	5.2	1	17	15.7	2	203
NEMAHA	73	23.5	4	40	13.2	1	-44
NEOSHO	227	49.5	9	315	69.3	9	40
NESS	•	•	•	3	3.1	1	•
NORTON	52	38.7	7	78	58.2	8	50
OSAGE	238	50.7	9	291	60.9	9	20
OSBORNE	46	40.3	7	26	23.6	3	-42
OTTAWA	17	10.8	2	83	54.4	8	402
PAWNEE	41	20.6	4	82	43.4	6	111
PHILLIPS	53	33.2	6	42	27.2	4	-18
POTTAWATOMIE	204	37.6	6	133	24.0	3	-36
PRATT	60	22.5	4	141	53.7	8	138
RAWLINS	•	•	•	12	13.7	1	•
RENO	685	40.7	7	967	57.5	8	41
REPUBLIC	58	40.0	7	68	48.1	7	20
RICE	167	59.8	9	174	63.0	9	5
RILEY	478	29.0	5	645	41.1	6	42
ROOKS	75	46.5	8	70	44.8	7	-4
RUSH	35	41.0	8	21	25.9	3	-37
RUSSELL	69	37.7	7	54	29.8	4	-21
SALINE	468	32.8	6	896	63.1	9	92
SCOTT	14	9.2	2	90	60.1	9	551
SEDGWICK	5,091	40.8	8	7,441	58.6	9	44
SEWARD	267	40.1	7	315	46.4	7	16
SHAWNEE	3,091	69.1	10	3,033	67.9	9	-2
SHERIDAN	37	46.0	8	5	6.3	1	-86
SHERMAN	56	29.4	5	82	43.9	6	49
SMITH	44	39.4	7	32	29.8	4	-24
STAFFORD	25	17.8	3	111	82.1	10	360
STANTON	•	•	•	14	17.8	2	•
STEVENS	15	8.8	1	32	18.4	2	109
SUMNER	362	45.2	8	360	44.5	6	-2
THOMAS	101	40.2	7	74	30.1	4	-25
TREGO	20	21.9	4	4	4.5	1	-79
WABAUNSEE	97	51.8	9	54	28.7	4	-45
WALLACE	•	•	•	20	36.4	5	•
WASHINGTON	22	12.5	2	37	22.1	3	77
WICHITA	8	8.8	2	10	11.2	1	26
WILSON	202	72.6	10	223	81.1	10	12
WOODSON	30	30.1	5	47	48.0	7	60
WYANDOTTE	3,654	80.2	10	3,155	69.7	10	-13
KANSAS	**28,464**	**39.3**		**34,172**	**47.0**		**19.7**

Rates are per 1,000 children under age 18. Abuse and neglect data are provided by the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services. Population data are estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. Negative percent change indicates improvement.

CONFIRMED OR SUBSTANTIATED CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

After a report of child abuse or neglect is investigated, the child protective service worker must make a finding. Prior to 1997 in Kansas a report was either confirmed or not confirmed. Kansas had very narrow requirements for confirmation resulting in one of the lowest confirmation rates in the country.

In 1997, Kansas changed its finding categories to "substantiated" and "unsubstantiated" and developed additional criteria for substantiated cases for entry into the Central Registry for perpetrators of child abuse and neglect. Previously the "confirmed" cases had to meet that higher standard for entry into the Central Registry and cases not meeting this standard were classified as unconfirmed. The new "substantiated" rate can now be counted to construct a more accurate picture of the actual occurrence of abuse and neglect in our state. In 1997, under the new procedures, Kansas confirmed or substantiated 41 percent of the reported cases of abuse or neglect (13,979 confirmed/substantiated cases divided by 34,172 reported cases).

No baseline data are available for this new measure, so we cannot speak to trends over time in this year's book. Nationwide the actual incidence of abuse and neglect is known to have increased over the past decade, nearly doubling between 1986 and 1993.[1] The new procedures in Kansas are believed to provide a more accurate picture of the scope of abuse and neglect in our state and will provide a basis for tracking trends in future books.

[1] Sedlak, A. J., and Broadhurst, D. D. (1996). Third national incidence study of child abuse and neglect. United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect.

COUNTY	1997 NUMBER OF CONFIRMED CASES	1997 CONFIRMED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	DECILE RANK
ALLEN	91	22.1	7
ANDERSON	37	16.9	6
ATCHISON	69	14.3	5
BARBER	54	36.5	9
BARTON	50	6.4	2
BOURBON	83	20.1	7
BROWN	48	15.4	5
BUTLER	187	10.5	4
CHASE	10	13.2	4
CHAUTAUQUA	20	19.0	6
CHEROKEE	230	37.0	9
CHEYENNE	5	6.3	2
CLARK	4	6.4	2
CLAY	97	40.3	10
CLOUD	41	16.6	5
COFFEY	32	13.1	4
COMANCHE	27	53.7	10
COWLEY	289	28.2	8
CRAWFORD	293	33.1	9
DECATUR	4	4.4	2
DICKINSON	98	18.5	6
DONIPHAN	17	8.0	3
DOUGLAS	383	17.8	6
EDWARDS	37	41.6	10
ELK	13	17.7	6
ELLIS	28	3.8	2
ELLSWORTH	3	2.0	1
FINNEY	426	32.4	9
FORD	331	36.1	9
FRANKLIN	149	21.5	7
GEARY	441	57.3	10
GOVE	3	3.5	2
GRAHAM	0	.0	1

COUNTY	1997 NUMBER OF CONFIRMED CASES	1997 CONFIRMED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	DECILE RANK
GRANT	67	23.5	7
GRAY	10	5.5	2
GREELEY	5	9.1	3
GREENWOOD	41	20.4	7
HAMILTON	19	31.0	9
HARPER	36	21.5	7
HARVEY	88	9.9	4
HASKELL	38	27.7	8
HODGEMAN	5	7.8	3
JACKSON	82	23.3	7
JEFFERSON	132	26.2	8
JEWELL	25	25.6	8
JOHNSON	1,130	9.8	4
KEARNY	20	13.6	5
KINGMAN	39	16.2	5
KIOWA	36	38.3	10
LABETTE	232	36.5	9
LANE	12	19.2	6
LEAVENWORTH	327	16.7	6
LINCOLN	31	37.6	9
LINN	61	25.4	8
LOGAN	0	.0	1
LYON	140	14.2	5
MARION	92	28.8	8
MARSHALL	51	17.1	6
MCPHERSON	109	14.2	5
MEADE	36	29.0	8
MIAMI	134	17.8	6
MITCHELL	24	12.7	4
MONTGOMERY	493	49.2	10
MORRIS	51	31.7	9
MORTON	8	7.4	3
NEMAHA	39	12.9	4
NEOSHO	209	46.0	10
NESS	3	3.1	2
NORTON	5	3.7	2
OSAGE	103	21.5	7
OSBORNE	5	4.5	2

COUNTY	1997 NUMBER OF CONFIRMED CASES	1997 CONFIRMED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	DECILE RANK
OTTAWA	37	24.2	8
PAWNEE	13	6.9	3
PHILLIPS	4	2.6	1
POTTAWATOMIE	69	12.4	4
PRATT	84	32.0	9
RAWLINS	0	.0	1
RENO	277	16.5	5
REPUBLIC	10	7.1	3
RICE	35	12.7	4
RILEY	327	20.8	7
ROOKS	16	10.2	4
RUSH	7	8.6	3
RUSSELL	3	1.7	1
SALINE	297	20.9	7
SCOTT	25	16.7	6
SEDGWICK	2,201	17.3	6
SEWARD	293	43.2	10
SHAWNEE	1,140	25.5	8
SHERIDAN	0	.0	1
SHERMAN	6	3.2	2
SMITH	9	8.4	3
STAFFORD	63	46.6	10
STANTON	28	35.7	9
STEVENS	25	14.4	5
SUMNER	119	14.7	5
THOMAS	21	8.5	3
TREGO	0	.0	1
WABAUNSEE	22	11.7	4
WALLACE	0	.0	1
WASHINGTON	0	.0	1
WICHITA	8	8.9	3
WILSON	117	42.5	10
WOODSON	19	19.4	7
WYANDOTTE	1,166	25.7	8
KANSAS	**13,979**	**19.2**	

Rates are per 1,000 children under age 18. Abuse and neglect data are provided by the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services. Population data are estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau.

JUVENILE COURT FILINGS

In the absence of a reliable source for juvenile offenses or arrests, *KIDS COUNT* began last year to report trends in juvenile court filings. This measure is a reflection of both the level of deviant behavior of children and youth in the community as well as the community's tolerance and response to this behavior. While this year's state rate of 24 per 1,000 children under the age of 18 is substantially higher than the average of 24 for the previous five years, it is down some from last year's rate of 27. Further monitoring will be required to see if this trend continues but it does appear to be consistent with related national data.

Over the ten years from 1985 to 1995, the juvenile violent crime arrest rate rose 66 percent nationwide and 45 percent for Kansas. However, there has been a decline in the rates for juvenile violent crime in more recent years.[1]

Juvenile court filing rates continue to vary widely across Kansas' counties with some counties showing declines and others experiencing increases. These differences combined with the wide variety of juvenile offenses captured in this measure call for more local analysis and search for appropriate responses.

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[1] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (1998). *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 1998*. Baltimore, MD.

	BASE YEARS - 1993-97			CURRENT YEAR - 1998			
COUNTY	AVERAGE NUMBER OF FILINGS	FILING RATE	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF FILINGS	FILING RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	104	25	8	101	25	7	1
ANDERSON	35	16	4	41	19	4	18
ATCHISON	116	24	8	134	28	7	14
BARBER	18	12	2	39	27	7	120
BARTON	208	26	9	215	28	8	7
BOURBON	81	20	6	121	29	8	48
BROWN	59	19	6	72	23	6	22
BUTLER	287	17	4	353	19	5	17
CHASE	16	21	7	23	31	8	49
CHAUTAUQUA	22	20	7	39	37	9	84
CHEROKEE	78	13	3	77	12	3	-2
CHEYENNE	6	7	1	1	1	1	-82
CLARK	15	24	8	4	6	2	-73
CLAY	45	19	5	35	15	3	-21
CLOUD	72	28	9	132	54	10	90
COFFEY	36	15	4	34	14	3	-5
COMANCHE	9	17	5	14	28	8	62
COWLEY	283	27	9	334	33	8	20
CRAWFORD	228	25	9	228	26	7	2
DECATUR	24	25	9	15	17	4	-34
DICKINSON	139	26	9	237	45	10	73
DONIPHAN	26	12	2	34	16	3	32
DOUGLAS	361	17	5	519	24	6	38
EDWARDS	16	18	5	6	7	2	-62
ELK	23	31	10	19	26	7	-17
ELLIS	98	14	3	140	19	5	41
ELLSWORTH	62	40	10	93	63	10	58
FINNEY	268	21	7	273	20	5	-3
FORD	332	37	10	562	61	10	66
FRANKLIN	164	24	8	150	21	6	-11
GEARY	368	42	10	376	51	10	21
GOVE	7	8	1	3	4	1	-55
GRAHAM	19	21	7	17	20	5	-4

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER OF FILINGS	FILING RATE	DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF FILINGS	FILING RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	48	17	5	86	30	8	71
GRAY	31	17	5	56	31	8	82
GREELEY	3	5	1	0	0	1	-100
GREENWOOD	34	17	4	82	41	9	144
HAMILTON	6	10	2	3	5	2	-49
HARPER	32	19	6	43	26	7	37
HARVEY	202	23	7	260	29	8	26
HASKELL	16	12	2	10	7	2	-38
HODGEMAN	3	5	1	1	2	1	-68
JACKSON	48	14	3	65	19	4	33
JEFFERSON	69	14	3	119	23	6	64
JEWELL	13	13	3	5	5	2	-60
JOHNSON	2,372	21	7	2,881	24	6	14
KEARNY	34	23	7	49	33	9	43
KINGMAN	62	26	9	87	36	9	40
KIOWA	23	23	7	18	20	5	-16
LABETTE	109	17	5	134	21	6	24
LANE	4	7	1	2	3	1	-51
LEAVENWORTH	387	20	6	435	22	6	11
LINCOLN	21	25	8	8	10	2	-61
LINN	44	19	6	89	37	9	93
LOGAN	17	19	6	15	18	4	-6
LYON	399	40	10	425	43	10	9
MARION	53	17	4	32	10	2	-39
MARSHALL	33	11	2	21	7	2	-34
MCPHERSON	72	9	2	101	13	3	40
MEADE	22	18	5	52	42	10	138
MIAMI	110	15	4	123	16	4	7
MITCHELL	32	17	4	31	17	4	-1
MONTGOMERY	245	24	8	335	34	9	40
MORRIS	33	20	6	26	16	4	-18
MORTON	13	12	2	21	19	5	62
NEMAHA	22	7	1	19	6	2	-9
NEOSHO	121	26	9	102	22	6	-15
NESS	7	7	1	4	4	1	-41
NORTON	35	26	9	44	33	8	28
OSAGE	58	13	3	106	22	6	74
OSBORNE	14	12	3	5	5	1	-62

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER OF FILINGS	FILING RATE	DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF FILINGS	FILING RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
OTTAWA	22	14	4	44	29	8	101
PAWNEE	50	25	8	76	41	9	64
PHILLIPS	22	14	3	22	15	3	6
POTTAWATOMIE	65	12	2	62	11	2	-8
PRATT	52	20	6	131	50	10	151
RAWLINS	19	21	7	1	1	1	-95
RENO	469	28	9	447	27	7	-5
REPUBLIC	25	17	5	24	17	4	1
RICE	54	19	6	68	25	7	29
RILEY	156	10	2	210	14	3	44
ROOKS	25	15	4	16	10	2	-31
RUSH	7	9	1	21	27	7	213
RUSSELL	45	25	8	40	22	6	-10
SALINE	689	48	10	587	41	9	-14
SCOTT	31	20	7	32	22	6	7
SEDGWICK	1,600	13	3	1,754	14	3	6
SEWARD	253	38	10	375	55	10	42
SHAWNEE	1,070	24	8	909	20	5	-15
SHERIDAN	1	1	1	0	0	1	-100
SHERMAN	61	32	10	74	40	9	25
SMITH	15	13	3	21	20	5	52
STAFFORD	22	16	4	47	35	9	116
STANTON	23	29	9	20	25	7	-15
STEVENS	32	19	6	35	20	5	6
SUMNER	150	19	6	134	16	4	-12
THOMAS	44	18	5	39	16	3	-8
TREGO	33	36	10	36	42	10	16
WABAUNSEE	15	8	1	25	13	3	63
WALLACE	5	10	2	0	0	1	-100
WASHINGTON	16	9	2	33	20	5	118
WICHITA	14	15	4	15	17	4	12
WILSON	67	24	8	69	25	7	4
WOODSON	21	21	7	16	16	4	-23
WYANDOTTE	1,383	30	10	1,862	41	9	37
KANSAS	**15,029**	**21**		**17,581**	**24**		**16**

Data are from the Kansas Bureau of Investigation. Juvenile court filing rates represent the number of court filings per 1,000 children under the age of 18. Negative change scores indicate improvement. Population data are estimates made by the U.S. Census Bureau.

YOUTH WHO REPORT ALCOHOL USE IN PAST 30 DAYS

More youth identify alcohol as their drug of choice than any other substance. Young people who use alcohol put themselves at risk for a host of negative consequences. Alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents are still a leading cause of death among 15-to-24-year-olds. The Centers for Disease Control estimates as many as 30,000 accidental deaths per year and 20,000 homicides or suicides are alcohol-related. Other studies find that underage drinkers have a greater likelihood of using other illicit drugs as well.

Our survey data this year report on the percentage of children in grades six, eight, ten, and 12 who report having used alcohol in the past month. In the most recent findings, 35 percent of Kansas youth responding to the survey indicated they had used alcohol in the past 30 days. This is a five-percent increase from the base years, an undesirable trend.

Research tells us that a high correlation exists between the availability of alcohol and its use by young people. National surveys of youth also indicate that they believe alcohol is more easily obtained than five years ago.[2] As Kansas youth who are surveyed indicate greater use of alcohol, community leaders should ensure that their prevention activities include efforts to restrict youth access to alcohol.

[1] Center for Substance Abuse Prevention. (1993). Prevention Primer: An encyclopedia of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention terms.
[2] National Institutes on Drug Abuse. (1997). Preventing drug use among children and adolescents: A research based guide.
[3] Office of National Drug Control Policy. (1998). The National Drug Control Strategy, 1998.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 AVG. NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	112	38	9	250	41	8	6
ANDERSON	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
ATCHISON	170	34	6	247	41	8	21
BARBER	40	32	4	63	53	10	66
BARTON	480	33	5	•	•	•	•
BOURBON	117	28	2	49	18	1	-35
BROWN	124	33	5	165	30	3	-8
BUTLER	250	32	4	701	34	5	6
CHASE	59	38	8	•	•	•	•
CHAUTAUQUA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
CHEROKEE	174	27	2	169	28	2	4
CHEYENNE	•	•	•	33	24	1	•
CLARK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
CLAY	140	51	10	110	70	10	36
CLOUD	95	38	8	134	42	8	10
COFFEY	103	31	3	145	42	8	35
COMANCHE	41	33	5	•	•	•	•
COWLEY	150	34	6	366	33	4	-4
CRAWFORD	327	36	8	•	•	•	•
DECATUR	52	31	3	56	32	4	2
DICKINSON	24	24	1	327	33	4	39
DONIPHAN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
DOUGLAS	60	51	10	•	•	•	•
EDWARDS	67	40	9	•	•	•	•
ELK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
ELLIS	147	44	10	347	44	9	0
ELLSWORTH	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
FINNEY	338	29	3	413	31	3	7
FORD	302	34	6	286	37	6	8
FRANKLIN	46	18	1	52	28	2	53
GEARY	286	26	2	253	23	1	-11
GOVE	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
GRAHAM	40	38	9	66	40	7	5

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 AVG. NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
GRAY	76	32	4	•	•	•	•
GREELEY	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
GREENWOOD	84	33	5	•	•	•	•
HAMILTON	40	36	8	38	34	5	-6
HARPER	113	35	7	•	•	•	•
HARVEY	217	24	1	•	•	•	•
HASKELL	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
HODGEMAN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
JACKSON	120	45	10	254	49	9	8
JEFFERSON	56	32	4	90	47	9	45
JEWELL	45	32	4	•	•	•	•
JOHNSON	186	35	7	466	33	4	-8
KEARNY	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
KINGMAN	135	42	9	•	•	•	•
KIOWA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
LABETTE	305	37	8	260	50	10	35
LANE	34	33	6	•	•	•	•
LEAVENWORTH	264	32	4	440	32	4	0
LINCOLN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
LINN	75	31	3	•	•	•	•
LOGAN	55	38	9	38	28	2	-28
LYON	229	28	2	•	•	•	•
MCPHERSON	47	23	1	54	27	2	19
MARION	91	24	1	123	26	1	9
MARSHALL	62	26	2	148	38	7	48
MEADE	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
MIAMI	196	33	6	327	39	7	16
MITCHELL	81	40	9	130	38	7	-4
MONTGOMERY	306	34	7	256	28	2	-17
MORRIS	95	32	3	104	38	6	20
MORTON	72	51	10	•	•	•	•
NEMAHA	179	35	7	199	31	3	-11
NEOSHO	145	35	7	123	36	6	3
NESS	90	45	10	•	•	•	•
NORTON	80	33	5	86	36	5	9
OSAGE	138	29	3	273	33	4	14
OSBORNE	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 AVG. NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
OTTAWA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
PAWNEE	111	39	9	100	43	9	12
PHILLIPS	48	25	2	•	•	•	•
POTTAWATOMIE	157	34	6	158	42	9	25
PRATT	90	25	2	177	37	6	46
RAWLINS	36	33	5	25	21	1	-37
RENO	96	24	1	557	28	2	18
REPUBLIC	77	31	3	•	•	•	•
RICE	93	26	2	82	31	3	21
RILEY	278	32	4	•	•	•	•
ROOKS	66	45	10	119	54	10	22
RUSH	57	44	9	•	•	•	•
RUSSELL	110	37	8	•	•	•	•
SALINE	599	34	6	578	34	5	-1
SCOTT	97	33	5	116	39	7	16
SEDGWICK	1,296	35	7	1,428	36	6	3
SEWARD	356	32	4	•	•	•	•
SHAWNEE	843	34	6	570	32	3	-7
SHERIDAN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
SHERMAN	83	29	3	90	31	3	7
SMITH	52	25	1	79	40	8	64
STAFFORD	54	23	1	•	•	•	•
STANTON	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
STEVENS	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
SUMNER	242	36	8	256	36	6	-1
THOMAS	95	30	3	99	34	5	16
TREGO	69	36	7	63	38	7	6
WABAUNSEE	84	38	8	63	49	10	28
WALLACE	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
WASHINGTON	42	32	5	59	54	10	65
WICHITA	58	47	10	•	•	•	•
WILSON	98	34	6	42	35	5	6
WOODSON	74	38	8	92	46	9	23
WYANDOTTE	1,158	35	7	504	40	8	14
KANSAS	**14,141**	**33**		**13,110**	**35**		**5**

Data report on the percentage of children who report any use of alcohol in the 30 days prior to completing a survey on alcohol and other drug use. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center from a survey administered to youth in grades six, eight, ten and 12. Counties in which less than 25 children per grade participated are not reported. State totals are from all survey respondents and include data from omitted counties.

YOUTH WHO REPORT BINGE DRINKING

Binge drinking is defined as the consumption of five or more drinks in a row on at least one occasion. Clearly, the goal of binge drinking is intoxication, a very unhealthy approach to alcohol use for anyone and particularly dangerous for young people.

Binge drinking dramatically increases a youth's risk of serious injury or death through alcohol-related accidents or violence. Bingeing also increases the likelihood of poor decision-making regarding risk-taking and sexual behavior, choices which may result in long-term consequences.

National studies find that one-third of high school students report engaging in binge drinking in the last two weeks. Despite general declines in illicit drug use by youth, the 1997 Monitoring the Future Study found binge drinking increasing slightly in recent years.[1] Our data indicate similar results for Kansas children.

The data we provide here comes from a survey of young people in grades six, eight, ten, and 12. In the most recent year, 1998, we find that 19 percent of the children responding to the survey indicated they had engaged in binge drinking on at least one occasion. This is a slight increase from the base-year rate, a trend of some concern. Community leaders must remain cognizant of the risks posed by binge drinking and continue efforts to discourage this dangerous behavior.

[1] Johnson, L. (1997). Preliminary Results on Illicit Drug and Alcohol Use from Monitoring the Future. In Office of National Drug Control Policy (1998). The National Drug Control Strategy, 1998.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 AVG. NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	65	22	9	147	24	8	8
ANDERSON	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
ATCHISON	91	18	5	119	20	5	10
BARBER	20	16	3	38	32	10	106
BARTON	274	19	6	•	•	•	•
BOURBON	63	15	3	19	7	1	-52
BROWN	74	20	7	83	15	2	-24
BUTLER	136	18	5	405	20	6	13
CHASE	27	17	4	•	•	•	•
CHAUTAUQUA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
CHEROKEE	92	14	3	92	16	3	8
CHEYENNE	•	•	•	22	16	3	•
CLARK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
CLAY	92	33	10	64	41	10	21
CLOUD	49	20	7	93	29	9	47
COFFEY	51	15	3	71	20	6	32
COMANCHE	25	20	7	•	•	•	•
COWLEY	95	21	8	211	19	5	-12
CRAWFORD	199	22	8	•	•	•	•
DECATUR	33	19	7	36	21	7	7
DICKINSON	4	4	1	169	17	4	322
DONIPHAN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
DOUGLAS	31	27	10	•	•	•	•
EDWARDS	38	23	9	•	•	•	•
ELK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
ELLIS	78	23	9	183	23	8	0
ELLSWORTH	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
FINNEY	184	16	4	219	17	3	4
FORD	165	18	5	189	24	8	31
FRANKLIN	25	10	1	29	16	3	54
GEARY	126	11	1	89	8	1	-28
GOVE	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
GRAHAM	26	25	10	49	30	10	18

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 AVG. NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
GRAY	35	15	3	•	•	•	•
GREELEY	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
GREENWOOD	49	19	6	•	•	•	•
HAMILTON	24	22	9	16	14	2	-36
HARPER	63	19	6	•	•	•	•
HARVEY	106	12	1	•	•	•	•
HASKELL	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
HODGEMAN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
JACKSON	66	25	10	155	30	10	20
JEFFERSON	24	14	2	47	24	8	77
JEWELL	26	19	5	•	•	•	•
JOHNSON	101	19	6	239	17	4	-12
KEARNY	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
KINGMAN	80	25	10	•	•	•	•
KIOWA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
LABETTE	170	21	8	144	28	9	35
LANE	16	16	4	•	•	•	•
LEAVENWORTH	138	17	4	232	17	4	2
LINCOLN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
LINN	45	18	5	•	•	•	•
LOGAN	32	23	9	23	17	4	-26
LYON	127	15	3	•	•	•	•
MCPHERSON	22	10	1	29	14	2	39
MARION	46	12	1	69	15	2	22
MARSHALL	30	12	2	83	22	7	73
MEADE	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
MIAMI	101	17	5	169	20	6	15
MITCHELL	48	24	9	72	21	7	-11
MONTGOMERY	171	19	6	135	15	2	-22
MORRIS	60	20	7	55	20	6	-1
MORTON	42	30	10	•	•	•	•
NEMAHA	80	16	3	85	13	1	-15
NEOSHO	80	19	6	70	20	6	6
NESS	51	25	10	•	•	•	•
NORTON	38	16	4	48	20	6	26
OSAGE	65	14	2	138	17	3	22
OSBORNE	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
OTTAWA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
PAWNEE	59	20	8	54	23	8	15
PHILLIPS	27	15	3	•	•	•	•
POTTAWATOMIE	100	21	8	99	26	9	22
PRATT	49	14	2	100	21	7	51
RAWLINS	16	15	3	11	9	1	-38
RENO	51	12	1	278	14	2	12
REPUBLIC	51	21	8	•	•	•	•
RICE	48	13	2	51	20	5	47
RILEY	136	16	4	•	•	•	•
ROOKS	36	24	9	81	37	10	52
RUSH	27	21	8	•	•	•	•
RUSSELL	65	22	8	•	•	•	•
SALINE	343	20	7	283	17	3	-15
SCOTT	54	19	6	74	24	9	31
SEDGWICK	685	18	5	760	19	5	4
SEWARD	188	17	4	•	•	•	•
SHAWNEE	438	18	5	314	17	4	-1
SHERIDAN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
SHERMAN	38	13	2	53	18	4	38
SMITH	27	13	2	43	22	7	70
STAFFORD	25	11	1	•	•	•	•
STANTON	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
STEVENS	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
SUMNER	137	20	7	141	20	5	4
THOMAS	46	14	2	56	20	5	37
TREGO	33	17	4	21	13	1	-26
WABAUNSEE	49	22	9	38	29	9	31
WALLACE	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
WASHINGTON	25	19	6	34	31	10	64
WICHITA	32	26	10	•	•	•	•
WILSON	62	21	8	27	22	7	4
WOODSON	38	20	7	47	23	8	20
WYANDOTTE	616	19	6	323	26	9	38
KANSAS	**7,646**	**17.9**		**7,153**	**19.0**		**6**

Binge drinking is defined as taking five or more consecutive drinks on one occasion. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center from a survey administered to youth in grades six, eight, ten and 12. Counties in which less than 25 children per grade participated are not reported. State totals are from all survey respondents and include data from omitted counties.

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YOUTH WHO HAVE EVER USED DRUGS OTHER THAN ALCOHOL

Nationally, the use of drugs increased steadily through this decade before beginning to level off in the most recent year. A 1996 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Study found that nine percent of youth ages 12 to 17 reported they were currently using drugs. Marijuana is the most frequently used illicit drug; well over 90 percent of youth who use drugs other than alcohol report beginning with marijuana.[1] Drug use among youth is associated with family, school, and legal problems. Children who use drugs are more likely to be sexually active and contract a sexually transmitted disease.

Our study data report on lifetime rather than current use of drugs. This represents the percentage of young people who indicate they have ever used a drug other than alcohol. Among children in grades six, eight, ten, and 12 who participated in the survey, 11 percent report at least one use of drugs in their lifetime. This figure is a substantial reduction from the 17-percent base rate and is certainly very positive news. While we applaud the positive change, we also caution that shifts in patterns of survey participation may account for some changes in reported use.

[1] Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (1996). National Household Survey on Drug Abuse.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 AVG NUMBER REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 PERCENT REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	43	5	4	69	11	7	132
ANDERSON	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
ATCHISON	61	4	3	41	7	4	69
BARBER	10	3	1	12	10	6	279
BARTON	189	13	10	•	•	•	•
BOURBON	41	5	4	7	3	2	-46
BROWN	51	5	3	32	6	4	29
BUTLER	149	6	7	233	11	7	78
CHASE	22	7	8	•	•	•	•
CHAUTAUQUA	11	10	9	•	•	•	•
CHEROKEE	103	5	5	78	13	9	144
CHEYENNE	8	6	7	1	1	1	-89
CLARK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
CLAY	71	26	10	29	19	10	-29
CLOUD	31	6	6	37	12	8	85
COFFEY	40	4	2	26	7	5	87
COMANCHE	5	2	1	•	•	•	•
COWLEY	75	6	5	122	11	7	94
CRAWFORD	168	6	6	•	•	•	•
DECATUR	27	16	10	9	5	3	-68
DICKINSON	8	8	9	104	10	6	32
DONIPHAN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
DOUGLAS	43	19	10	•	•	•	•
EDWARDS	16	10	9	•	•	•	•
ELK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
ELLIS	51	5	4	51	7	4	28
ELLSWORTH	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
FINNEY	234	7	7	154	12	8	72
FORD	172	6	6	105	13	9	111
FRANKLIN	19	4	2	10	5	3	41
GEARY	190	6	6	61	6	3	-2
GOVE	•	•	•	•	•	•	
GRAHAM	9	3	2	9	6	3	92

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 AVG NUMBER REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 PERCENT REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
GRAY	14	6	6	•	•	•	•
GREELEY	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
GREENWOOD	33	4	3	•	•	•	•
HAMILTON	13	4	3	2	2	1	-56
HARPER	45	7	8	•	•	•	•
HARVEY	155	6	5	•	•	•	•
HASKELL	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
HODGEMAN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
JACKSON	77	10	9	65	12	9	29
JEFFERSON	29	8	9	30	16	10	88
JEWELL	8	2	1	•	•	•	•
JOHNSON	124	8	9	182	13	9	62
KEARNY	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
KINGMAN	45	7	8	•	•	•	•
KIOWA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
LABETTE	150	6	6	104	20	10	230
LANE	8	4	2	•	•	•	•
LEAVENWORTH	136	6	5	171	13	9	128
LINCOLN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
LINN	31	6	7	•	•	•	•
LOGAN	18	4	3	3	2	1	-48
LYON	120	5	4	•	•	•	•
MCPHERSON	22	3	2	6	3	2	-12
MARION	54	5	3	35	7	5	58
MARSHALL	19	3	1	17	4	2	67
MEADE	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
MIAMI	117	7	7	90	11	7	60
MITCHELL	17	4	3	33	10	6	130
MONTGOMERY	183	7	7	95	10	6	54
MORRIS	44	5	4	34	12	8	153
MORTON	21	15	10	•	•	•	•
NEMAHA	33	2	1	10	2	1	-28
NEOSHO	44	5	5	31	9	5	72
NESS	12	6	6	•	•	•	•
NORTON	36	7	8	15	6	4	-15
OSAGE	75	5	5	104	13	9	140
OSBORNE	5	3	2	•	•	•	•

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 AVG NUMBER REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 PERCENT REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
OTTAWA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
PAWNEE	55	6	6	27	12	8	82
PHILLIPS	13	2	1	•	•	•	•
POTTAWATOMIE	67	5	3	43	11	7	141
PRATT	55	8	8	43	9	5	15
RAWLINS	15	7	8	2	2	1	-77
RENO	40	5	4	193	10	6	94
REPUBLIC	15	6	6	•	•	•	•
RICE	46	4	3	28	11	6	147
RILEY	180	10	9	•	•	•	•
ROOKS	17	6	5	39	18	10	218
RUSH	17	7	7	•	•	•	•
RUSSELL	43	5	4	•	•	•	•
SALINE	384	11	10	260	15	10	40
SCOTT	33	6	5	16	5	3	-5
SEDGWICK	787	7	8	450	11	7	61
SEWARD	162	15	10	•	•	•	•
SHAWNEE	521	7	8	217	12	8	72
SHERIDAN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
SHERMAN	39	7	8	22	8	5	10
SMITH	13	3	2	6	3	2	3
STAFFORD	12	5	5	•	•	•	•
STANTON	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
STEVENS	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
SUMNER	131	6	7	88	12	8	89
THOMAS	27	3	1	17	6	4	113
TREGO	21	11	9	5	3	2	-73
WABAUNSEE	25	4	2	11	9	5	127
WALLACE	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
WASHINGTON	8	2	1	3	3	2	27
WICHITA	15	12	10	•	•	•	•
WILSON	42	5	4	7	6	4	23
WOODSON	20	3	2	9	5	3	34
WYANDOTTE	1,032	10	9	313	25	10	139
KANSAS	**7,371**	**17**	**4,062**	**11**		**-37**	

Drug use means use of any of the following: marijuana, cocaine, inhalants, or LSD. Among these, marijuana is the most frequently reported drug used. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center from a survey administered to youth in grades six, eight, ten and 12. Counties in which less than 25 children per grade participated are not reported. State totals are from all survey respondents and include data from omitted counties.

STATE AND COUNTY STATISTICS

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KANSAS

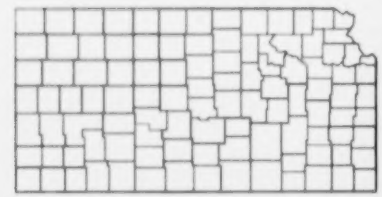
	Base Rate	Current Year Actual Number	Current Year Rate	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING				
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9	3,634	10	5
Children in Poverty		117,134	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24	113,881	25	2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY				
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	28	139	26	7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8	274	7	8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85	31,667	86	1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	57	22,635	70	23
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7	2,573	7	5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION				
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	46	6,155	53	17
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26	130,118	27	3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76	20,201	76	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	18	6,729	18	2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80	26,648	81	1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING				
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7	5,796	8	1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	78	138	68	12
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	39	34,172	47	20
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children		13,979	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL				
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	21	17,581	24	16
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33	13,110	35	5
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	17	4,062	11	37

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	State
Population Size	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.7%
Ethnicity	
White	88.4%
Black	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.8%
Median Family Income	$32,966
Unemployment	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)



Kansas has continued to improve dramatically in the rate of childhood immunizations and has also shown improvements in other indicators of physical health and safety. There have been declines in both the childhood death rate and infant mortality rate. The teen violent death rate was also down last year after peaking the previous year. In addition, Head Start has been made more available to children living in poverty in Kansas, which is expected to greatly benefit these children. Unfortunately, poverty levels and other indicators of economic well-being continue to be of concern, and reports of child abuse and neglect have risen significantly.

ALLEN

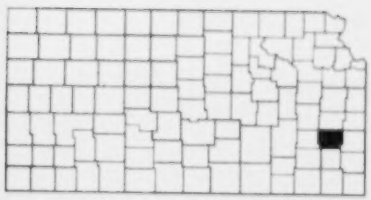
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	14,638	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.4%	88.4%
Black	1.8%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,426	$32,966
Unemployment	5.5%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Iola



Allen County boasted positive improvement in the percentage of births with early prenatal care and dramatic improvements in immunization rates. Both were important contributors to long-term health of children. The availability of child care increased as well, another positive finding for this county. Of concern, both the graduation rate and the percentage of graduates pursing post-secondary education declined slightly. Both remained below the statewide level.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.4	29	15.6	10	10	36.3
Children in Poverty	.	918	22.0	9	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	30.1	828	30.1	8	25	19.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	19.2	1	33.6	7	26	75.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	4.6	0	0.0	5	7	100.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.6	173	93.0	2	86	11.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	48.2	120	70.3	7	70	45.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.5	12	6.5	5	7	17.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	58.7	50	68.6	4	53	16.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.8	788	29.9	3	27	20.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.6	131	74.0	7	76	5.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	17.0	33	17.7	5	18	6.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	78.9	177	71.7	10	81	9.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	15	41	10	7	8	37
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	53.1	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	20.3	249	60.6	9	47	28
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	91	22.1	7	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	24.8	101	25.0	7	24	0.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	38.3	250	40.7	8	35	6.4
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.9	69	11.3	7	11	57

ANDERSON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.7	4	5.1	3	10	44.8
Children in Poverty	.	370	17.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.8	432	29.3	8	25	5.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	50.0	1	64.0	9	26	28.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.8	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.0	69	87.3	5	86	5.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	50.3	57	59.1	9	70	17.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.2	6	7.6	8	7	22.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	11.5	192	13.8	10	27	20.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	74.4	64	77.1	6	76	3.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	17.7	19	24.1	9	18	35.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	89.5	83	86.5	7	81	3.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5	24	11	8	8	133
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	181.6	2	328.4	9	68	81.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	13.3	72	32.9	5	47	148.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	37	16.9	6	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	15.9	41	18.7	4	24	18.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

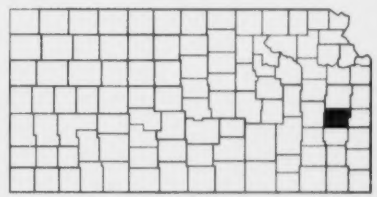
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,803	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.0%	88.4%
Black	0.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.7%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,914	$32,966
Unemployment	5.6%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Garnett



Anderson County achieved a reduction in the percentage of births occurring to single teens this year. This was good news as young mothers were more likely to drop out of school and to live in poverty. The high school graduation rate in this county remained above the state average. On the negative side, the out-of-home placement rate increased substantially, as did reports of child abuse and neglect.

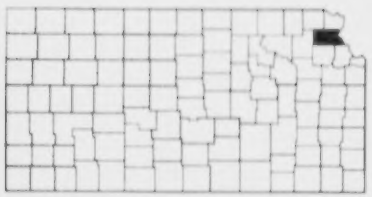
ATCHISON

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	16,932	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	91.1%	88.4%
Black	5.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.8%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.2%	5.8%
Median Family Income	$26,772	$32,966
Unemployment	6.2%	5.8%

(1992 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Atchison



Atchinson County had a reduction in the percentage of births that occurred to mothers who lacked a high school degree and remained well below the state average for this indicator. This county also obtained a substantial increase in its immunization rate. Although there remained much room for improvement in immunization, this year's figure was a step in the right direction. Of concern, the percentage of Atchinson County high school graduates who sought additional education or training declined further this year.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.9	19	9.1	6	10	23.2
Children in Poverty	.	969	21.0	9	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	30.2	870	34.4	9	25	-13.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	22.7	2	58.4	8	26	-157.2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.7	0	0.0	5	7	100.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	80.8	169	82.0	7	86	1.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	38.9	95	54.8	10	70	41.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.5	14	6.7	6	7	-22.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	40.7	54	43.3	7	53	6.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.3	659	22.0	7	27	14.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.5	94	67.1	10	76	-12.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.1	30	14.4	5	18	10.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.9	140	78.7	9	81	-2.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8	97	19	10	8	-147.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	109.2	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	20.1	131	27.1	3	47	-34.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	69	14.3	5	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	24.1	134	27.5	7	24	-14.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.5	247	40.7	8	35	-21.4
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.0	41	6.8	4	11	-68.7

BARBER

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.5	6	11.3	8	10	74.6
Children in Poverty	.	162	10.0	1	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	19.4	261	22.8	4	25	17.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	66.5	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.8	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	81.9	43	81.1	8	86	1.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	58.3	61	78.7	4	70	35.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.2	3	5.7	4	7	30.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.8	200	20.1	7	27	1.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.8	62	79.5	5	76	2.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.7	6	11.3	3	18	11.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	97.5	78	95.1	2	81	2.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5	17	11	9	8	142
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	125.1	2	583.1	10	68	366.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.3	57	38.5	5	47	366.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	54	36.5	9	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	12.1	39	26.6	7	24	120.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.6	63	52.5	10	35	66.3
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	2.7	12	10.1	6	11	281

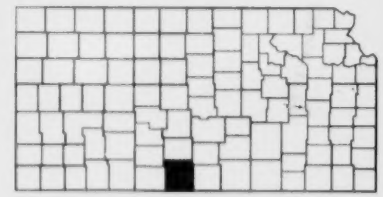
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,874	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.0%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,577	$32,966
Unemployment	3.7%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Medicine Lodge



Barber County accomplished a big increase in the childhood immunization rate; the results for this year's rate were well above the statewide figure. Other good news included a further reduction in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies. The high school graduation rate remained among the best in the state despite a slight decline. An area of concern is the increase in the rate of juvenile court filings.

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A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

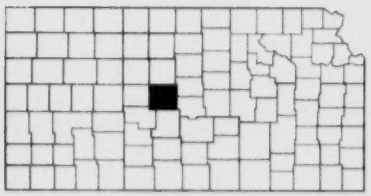
BARTON

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	29,382	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.2%	88.4%
Black	1.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,969	$32,966
Unemployment	3.2%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Great Bend



Barton County citizens should be pleased with an increase in the percentage of its high school graduates who pursued additional education or training. That rate improved this year and ranks above the state rate. The rate of reported child abuse and neglect also declined in the current year. Of concern is the increase in births to teen mothers along with an increase in births to mothers who do not finish high school. Both phenomena may fuel the likelihood of long-term negative outcomes for mother and child.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.8	46	12.3	9	10	38.6
Children in Poverty	.	1,558	19.0	8	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.8	1,552	31.0	9	25	11.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	9.7	1	17.2	6	26	76.4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	14.1	4	10.7	8	7	24.5
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	81.8	308	83.7	7	86	2.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	50.4	215	67.5	8	70	34.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.2	39	10.4	10	7	66.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	31.6	54	33.4	7	53	5.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.4	1,387	26.3	4	27	12.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.4	282	82.2	4	76	3.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	22.3	111	29.9	9	18	34.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	81.6	343	80.0	9	81	2.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7	85	10	8	8	55
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	61.8	2	98.1	7	68	59.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	36.0	229	29.1	4	47	19.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	50	6.4	2	19	.
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	25.9	215	27.6	8	24	6.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.0	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	13.0	.	.	.	11	

BOURBON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 0 → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.9	19	10.2	7	10	6.9
Children in Poverty	.	995	25.0	10	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	33.4	937	32.0	9	25	4.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	33.9	1	34.6	7	26	-2.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.4	1	5.3	6	7	42.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	76.7	164	87.7	5	86	14.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	50.6	121	60.7	9	70	20.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.5	12	6.4	5	7	2.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	38.3	50	43.3	7	53	13.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.5	517	19.7	8	27	-4.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.2	126	81.3	4	76	1.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	19.6	37	19.8	7	18	-1.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	77.7	155	77.9	9	81	0.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7	44	10	8	8	-47
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	66.6	1	75.6	7	68	-14.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	13.6	176	42.7	6	47	-213.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	83	20.1	7	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	19.8	121	29.4	8	24	-48.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	27.6	49	18.0	1	35	34.8
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.8	7	2.6	2	11	46.0

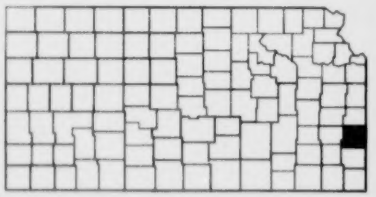
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	14,966	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.2%	88.4%
Black	2.8%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,462	$32,966
Unemployment	5.2%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Fort Scott



Bourbon County attained substantial improvement in the percentage of births that included early prenatal care. This county should also celebrate a slight reduction in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies. Some concerns existed in the data. The rate of child care availability declined this year and remained well below the state figure. In addition, juvenile court filings were up this year.

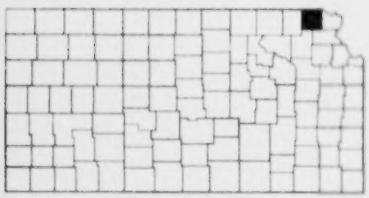
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	11,128	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	90.8%	88.4%
Black	1.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	6.0%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.7%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$24,728	$32,966
Unemployment	5.1%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Hiawatha



Brown County had one of the lowest rates of reported child abuse and neglect in the state. Other good news included a further reduction in the percentage of low birth-weight babies, a rate that remained one of the best in the state. Concerns included a high percentage of children who lived in poverty and a reduction in Head Start participation among younger children eligible for the program.

BROWN

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	13.3	9	6.9	4	10	48.0
Children in Poverty	.	779	25.0	10	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	33.5	585	30.5	8	25	8.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	50.6	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.3	1	7.7	7	7	-5.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	82.1	114	87.7	5	86	6.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	54.3	79	77.4	4	70	42.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.8	4	3.1	2	7	47.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	61.8	34	44.8	7	53	-27.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.6	520	25.3	5	27	-8.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.3	97	76.4	6	76	-3.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.8	18	13.8	4	18	17.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.3	127	89.4	5	81	2.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7	32	10	8	8	-43.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	135.9	.	0.0	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	13.5	44	14.1	1	47	-5.0
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	48	15.4	5	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	18.9	72	23.1	6	24	-21.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.7	165	30.1	3	35	8.1
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.5	32	5.8	4	11	-29.1

BUTLER

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.6	53	7.2	4	10	16.4
Children in Poverty	.	1,886	11.0	2	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	15.1	1,862	14.2	1	25	5.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	23.8		0.0	6	26	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.4	3	4.0	6	7	57.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.5	656	89.0	3	86	10.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	57.7	642	73.5	6	70	27.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.4	60	8.1	8	7	-27.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	56.2	110	65.0	5	53	15.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.4	2,180	18.4	8	27	-9.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.0	651	80.5	4	76	4.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.7	82	11.1	3	18	12.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.5	809	88.3	6	81	2.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	42	2	3	8	50
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	61.9	2	41.0	7	68	34.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	30.7	703	39.3	5	47	-27.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	187	10.5	4	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	16.7	353	19.4	5	24	-16.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.4	701	34.5	5	35	-6.3
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.4	233	11.4	7	11	-77.5

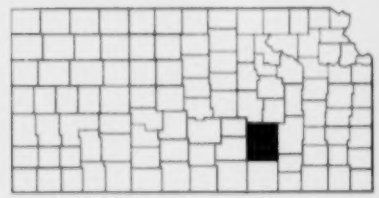
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	50,580	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.6%	88.4%
Black	0.7%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.9%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$36,137	$32,966
Unemployment	3.3%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: El Dorado



Butler County obtained a reduction in the percentage of births to mothers who have not completed high school. Other good news included a decline in births to single teenage mothers. On the negative side, the rate of child care availability declined this year and remained well below the state rate. Another concern is that Butler County also experienced an increase in low-birth-weight babies.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

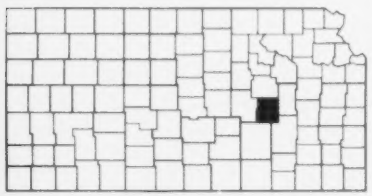
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,021	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.1%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$22,440	$32,966
Unemployment	4.4%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Cottonwood Falls



Chase County attained a dramatic improvement in the rate of childhood immunization. This year's increase placed Chase County above the state rate for this important indicator. This county had a low rate of reported abuse and neglect and posted a further decline this year. Of concern, juvenile court filings were up in Chase County and there continued to be no Head Start program.

CHASE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.1	5	8.9	6	10	-9.9
Children in Poverty	.	147	19.0	8	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	23.6	139	25.4	5	25	-7.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	1	17.9	9	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.7	48	85.7	6	86	2.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.3	28	73.0	6	70	32.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.6	5	8.9	9	7	-17.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	.	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.4	122	25.2	5	27	23.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	72.6	28	77.8	6	76	7.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	17.8	10	17.9	6	18	0.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	77.1	36	83.7	7	81	8.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9	6	8	7	8	-8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	0.0	.	0.0	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	22.0	14	18.5	2	47	15.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	10	13.2	4	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	20.8	23	30.9	8	24	-48.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	38.0	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	7.1	.	.	.	11	

CHAUTAUQUA

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.9	4	16.0	10	10	34.4
Children in Poverty	.	280	27.0	10	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	40.7	306	40.3	10	25	1.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	51.4	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	17.9	3	120.0	10	7	527.1
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.3	21	84.0	7	86	7.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	47.3	37	67.4	8	70	42.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.5	1	4.0	2	7	38.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	11.0	64	9.7	10	27	11.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.8	19	54.3	10	76	29.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.5	6	24.0	9	18	66.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.7	35	79.5	9	81	12.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	8	7	6	8	149
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	0.0	1	340.1	10	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	53.3	78	74.2	10	47	39.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	20	19.0	6	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	20.4	39	37.4	9	24	83.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	10.5	1	.	.	11	

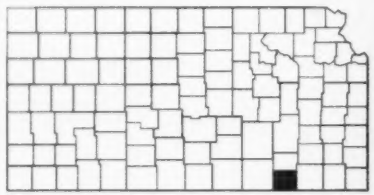
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,407	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	94.9%	88.4%
Black	0.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	3.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.0%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$21,426	$32,966
Unemployment	6.3%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Sedan



Chatauqua County boasted a positive improvement in the rate of childhood immunizations. In addition, this county improved further on one of the best low-birth-weight rates in Kansas. Despite this good news, the availability of child care declined further. Also troubling was an increase in the rate of births to unmarried teenagers.

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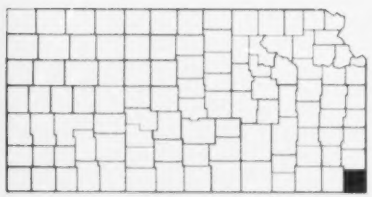
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	21,374	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.0%	88.4%
Black	0.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	3.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$22,703	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	6.4%	3.8%

County Seat: Columbus



Cherokee County enjoyed a reduction in the rate of juvenile court filings this year and also had a relatively low level of recent alcohol use among its young people. The percentage of graduates who pursued additional training or education improved this year, although this rate remained rather low. A high percentage of Cherokee County children lived in poverty.

CHEROKEE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time: Change (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING	**COUNTY**	**NUMBER**	**RATE**	**RANK**	**KANSAS**	**CHANGE**
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	12.5	26	8.3	5	10	33.3
Children in Poverty	.	1,768	30.0	10	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	37.0	1,552	39.6	10	25	-6.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	22.4	2	45.5	8	26	-103.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.6	2	6.4	7	7	16.1
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	77.5	256	82.1	7	86	5.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	41.8	167	59.7	9	70	42.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.6	21	6.7	6	7	11.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	53.0	110	55.3	6	53	4.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.1	826	21.4	7	27	18.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	55.3	152	68.5	9	76	23.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	25.7	68	21.9	8	18	14.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.3	222	73.8	10	81	-10.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7	54	8	7	8	13
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	94.9	3	160.3	8	68	-69.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	45.2	558	89.9	10	47	-58.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	230	37.0	9	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	12.6	77	12.4	3	24	1.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	27.2	169	28.4	2	35	-4.4
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	5.4	78	13.2	9	11	-144.5

CHEYENNE

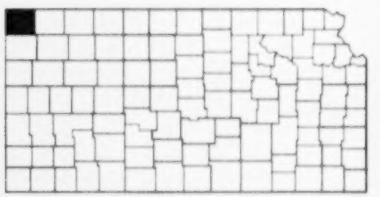
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.4	1	3.2	2	10	
Children in Poverty		112	14.0	5	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	29.4	172	26.6	6	25	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	66.2				26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	1	32.3	10	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.2	26	83.9	7	86	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	59.7	22	61.3	9	70	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	3.6		0.0	1	7	
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	17	113.7	1	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	22.9	122	24.3	5	27	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	88.2	51	92.7	1	76	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	11.6	5	16.1	6	18	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	89.4	55	98.2	1	81	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	0	0	2	8	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	7.3				68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.8	19	24.0	3	47	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children		5	6.3	2	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	12.6	1	1.3	1	24	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days		33	24.3	1	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.5	1	0.7	1	11	

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,243	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.0%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.0%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,984	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.8%	3.8%

County Seat: St. Francis



Cheyenne County residents should take pride in educational achievement among its young people. The graduation rate increased this year and was among the best in Kansas. In addition, a very high percentage of Cheyenne County youth pursue additional education and training after high school. Although the immunization rate improved this year, it remained among the lowest in the state. Reports of child abuse and neglect increased this year as well.

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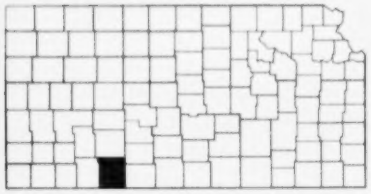
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,418	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.9%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.0%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.7%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,631	$32,966
Unemployment	2.4%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Ashland



Clark County citizens should celebrate its continuing excellent high school graduation rate. Clark County youth also seek education or training after high school at a high rate. This county also has a very low rate of juvenile court filings. On the negative side, there continues to be no Head Start program for children in Clark County, and the percentage of births with early prenatal care declined this year.

CLARK

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	2.3	1	4.2	3	10	79.2
Children in Poverty	.	52	8.0	1	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	19.1	106	19.3	3	25	0.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	171.2	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	15.5	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.8	19	79.2	8	86	8.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	44.0	27	66.7	9	70	51.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.0	.	0.0	1	7	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.3	128	31.2	2	27	18.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	89.3	33	89.2	2	76	0.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	6.2	1	4.2	1	18	32.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	97.4	37	97.4	1	81	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	0	1	2	2	8	291
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	142.0	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	12.2	12	19.2	2	47	57.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	4	6.4	2	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	23.5	4	6.3	2	24	73.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

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CLAY

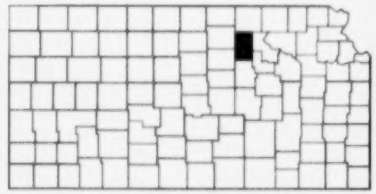
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 90 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.8	11	13.3	9	10	51.4
Children in Poverty	.	425	18.0	8	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.9	382	22.7	4	25	0.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	32.5	1	56.2	8	26	73.2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.9	1	12.0	9	7	207.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.0	77	92.8	2	86	9.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	61.5	78	75.3	5	70	22.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.1	3	3.6	2	7	28.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	118.9	60	127.8	1	53	7.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	32.2	490	31.7	2	27	1.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.2	87	73.7	8	76	6.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.9	12	14.5	5	18	8.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	91.9	118	90.8	5	81	1.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5	3	1	2	8	76
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	107.3	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	67.1	72	29.9	4	47	55.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	97	40.3	10	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	18.7	35	14.7	3	24	21.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	51.3	110	69.9	10	35	36.3
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	26.1	29	18.6	10	11	28.7

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	9,158	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.9%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,886	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.9%	3.8%

County Seat: Clay Center



Clay County residents should be pleased that such a high percentage of pregnant women received early prenatal care, a rate that improved this year. More good news included a decline in reports of child abuse and neglect this year. There should be some concern in this county about an increase in the rate of teen births and a decline in the rate of young people who sought post-high-school education or training.

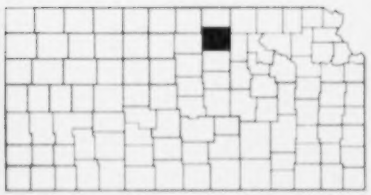
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	11,023	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.8%	88.4%
Black	0.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.7%	7.8%
Median Family Income	$25,654	$32,906
Unemployment	3.5%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Concordia



Cloud County should take pride in the improvement in child care availability. Already at a high rate, this county had one of the best rates in Kansas. Another positive finding for Cloud County was the percentage of high school graduates who sought further education or training. Of concern, juvenile court filings increased substantially this year and were well above the state rate. The percentage of low-birth-weight babies also increased this year.

CLOUD

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 0 → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.7	6	6.3	4	10	18.8
Children in Poverty	.	397	16.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.8	522	32.3	9	25	-16.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	21.4	1	57.7	8	26	-170.3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	11.0	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.0	82	85.4	6	86	-4.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	43.6	57	67.4	8	70	54.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.9	10	10.4	10	7	-110.6
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	69.8	45	100.6	2	53	44.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	37.5	656	42.6	1	27	13.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.2	89	81.7	4	76	4.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.1	9	9.4	3	18	4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	93.3	109	88.6	6	81	-5.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6	42	16	10	8	-17.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	48.4	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	47.5	115	46.7	7	47	1.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	41	16.6	5	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	28.4	132	54.1	10	24	-90.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	37.9	134	41.8	8	35	-10.3
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.3	37	11.6	8	11	-85.7

COFFEY

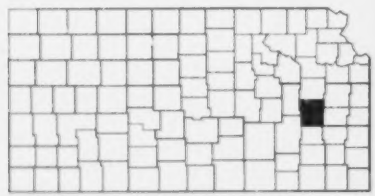
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.7	9	8.6	6	10	1.0
Children in Poverty	.	281	12.0	2	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.6	379	19.5	3	25	5.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	44.2	1	56.7	8	26	28.4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.8	2	19.0	9	7	405.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.8	91	87.5	5	86	1.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	56.5	85	76.8	5	70	36.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.5	7	6.7	6	7	2.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	20	114.1	1	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.1	436	27.6	4	27	5.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	74.8	113	77.9	6	76	4.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.0	11	10.5	3	18	34.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	94.3	145	91.8	4	81	2.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	4	2	2	8	43
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	95.9		0.0	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	50.1	72	29.5	4	47	41.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	32	13.1	4	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	14.6	34	13.9	3	24	5.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	30.9	145	41.5	8	35	34.6
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	40.	26	7.4	5	11	77.5

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	8,404	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.4%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.7%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,874	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	6.4%	3.8%

County Seat: Burlington



Coffey County has good news in educational and economic areas. Compared to other counties, a relatively small percentage of children lived in poverty. The percentage of births to mothers who lack a high school degree declined this year. Coffey County also began a Head Start program for its children this year. Of concern, a relatively high number of young people in Coffey County reported having used alcohol in the last month.

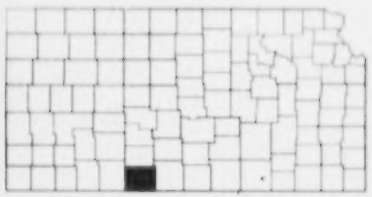
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,313	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.7%	88.4%
Black	0.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	5.8%
Median Family Income	$27,083	$32,008
Unemployment	2.1%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Coldwater



Comanche County boasts a substantial increase in the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age two. This increase left Comanche County among the best in the state. The high school graduation rates were another source of pride for this county. There was some concern as well. Reported child abuse and neglect rates increased this year. Comanche County continued to be without a Head Start program for its eligible children.

COMANCHE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	2.7	2	11.1	8	10	307.4
Children in Poverty	.	73	14.0	5	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.3	79	20.0	3	25	10.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	50.1	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.1	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	82.7	16	88.9	4	86	7.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	62.8	30	95.5	1	70	52.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	10.9	1	5.6	4	7	49.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.6	89	27.6	3	27	14.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.9	25	86.2	3	76	5.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.0	3	16.7	6	18	66.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	93.9	29	96.7	1	81	3.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	3	6	6	8	50
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	0.0	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	13.4	22	43.7	6	47	225.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	27	53.7	10	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	17.5	14	28.4	8	24	62.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.2	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	2.2	.	.	.	11	

COWLEY

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.3	63	13.5	9	10	-30.9
Children in Poverty	.	1,876	19.0	8	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	25.6	1,796	26.6	6	25	-3.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	39.1	2	27.0	7	26	31.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.2	1	2.1	6	7	76.6
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.6	405	86.9	6	86	2.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	57.9	314	71.9	6	70	24.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.6	24	5.2	3	7	-8.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	53.3	85	58.9	5	53	10.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.1	1,279	19.4	8	27	-3.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	74.7	320	83.1	4	76	11.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	19.9	110	23.6	9	18	-18.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	83.1	385	81.4	7	81	-2.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6	34	3	4	8	48
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	75.6	1	34.6	7	68	54.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	52.6	597	58.2	8	47	-10.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	289	28.2	8	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	27.4	334	32.9	8	24	-19.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.8	366	32.6	4	35	3.5
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	5.6	122	10.9	7	11	-51.0

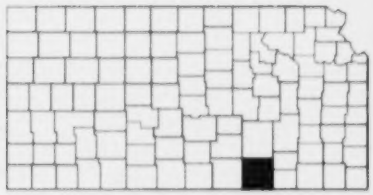
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	36,915	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	91.5%	88.4%
Black	2.8%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.9%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.0%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$31,107	$32,966
Unemployment	4.9%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Winfield



Cowley County celebrated a further decline in an already small percentage of low-birth-weight babies. In addition, the young people of Cowley County sought post-high-school education or training at a higher rate this year. Concern does exist for the increase in the percentage of births to mothers who lacked a high school diploma, a rate well above the state average. An additional negative increase was the percentage of Cowley County births that occurred to single teenage mothers.

CRAWFORD

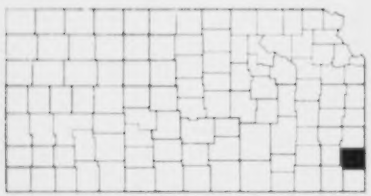
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	35,568	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.3%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.7%	88.4%
Black	1.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.0%	5.8%
Median Family Income	$26,516	$32,066
Unemployment	5.0%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Girard



Crawford County experienced a reduction in the percentage of children who were placed outside the home. Other good news included dramatic increases in childhood immunizations along with the improvement in the percentage of births with early prenatal care. On the negative side, reports of child abuse and neglect increased this year as did the percentage of births to single teenage mothers.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.0	53	10.8	7	10	19.6
Children in Poverty	.	2,250	26.0	10	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	32.1	2,016	32.4	9	25	0.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	33.6	0	0.0	6	26	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.3	2	4.1	6	7	35.9
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.5	436	89.0	4	86	3.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	42.2	300	73.0	6	70	73.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.1	26	5.3	4	7	3.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	44.6	107	48.1	7	53	7.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	22.0	1,437	26.0	4	27	18.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	71.9	270	74.2	7	76	3.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	17.6	76	15.4	5	18	12.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	77.9	364	79.6	9	81	2.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	14	89	9	7	8	32
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	65.7	1	33.8	6	68	49.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	77.7	759	85.8	10	47	10.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	293	33.1	9	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	25.4	228	26.0	7	24	2.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.1	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.2	.	.	.	11	

DECATUR

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.9	1	3.3	2	10	31.5
Children in Poverty		149	16.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	21.9	143	20.9	4	25	4.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	26.9				26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.4				7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.9	26	86.7	6	86	2.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	54.2	32	66.7	9	70	23.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	3.2		0.0	1	7	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	115.1	17	125.0	1	53	8.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.1	182	29.2	3	27	12.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.9	55	88.7	2	76	15.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	6.0	3	10.0	3	18	-99.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	100.0	62	95.4	2	81	-4.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2	9	10	8	8	-312.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	230.1	1	546.4	10	68	-137.6
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	37.5	23	25.4	3	47	32.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children		4	4.4	2	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	25.3	15	16.8	4	24	33.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.2	56	31.8	4	35	-2.0
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	16.0	9	5.1	3	11	67.8

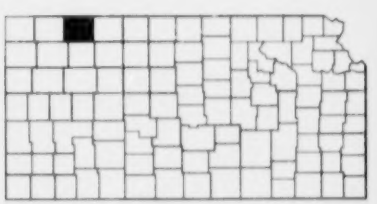
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,021	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.4%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,250	$32,966
Unemployment	2.8%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Oberlin



Decatur County had plenty of good news, particularly in the educational area. The graduation rate remained among the best in the state, as did the percentage of children participating in post-high school education or training, which increased this year. Opportunities for improvement exist. The percentage of children who were immunized by age two improved but still remained below the statewide level.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

DICKINSON

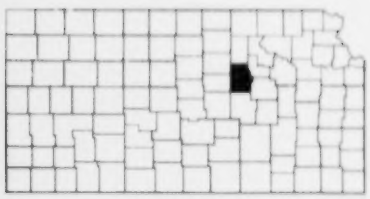
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	18,958	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.9%	88.4%
Black	0.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.8%	7.8%
Median Family Income	$28,019	$32,960
Unemployment	4.3%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Abilene



Dickinson County boasts positive results in early childhood education. This county had a sharp jump in the rate of Head Start participation. There was also improvement in the availability of child care. Some concern was noted, particularly with an increase in juvenile court filings. The rate of post-high-school education and training declined some this year and remained below the state level.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.0	30	14.5	10	10	60.4
Children in Poverty	.	852	16.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.7	1,343	35.9	10	25	45.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	40.4	1	25.9	6	26	35.8
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.6	1	4.8	6	7	43.9
Percent of Births With Early Prenatal Care	84.3	182	89.2	3	86	5.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	59.4	204	77.0	4	70	29.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.5	13	6.3	5	7	4.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	57.7	75	80.7	3	53	39.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	31.9	1,231	36.4	1	27	14.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	69.4	187	66.1	10	76	4.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.3	43	20.8	8	18	36.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	85.0	283	84.2	7	81	1.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	6	1	2	8	62
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	60.7	1	70.2	7	68	16.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	44.7	266	50.2	8	47	12.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	98	18.5	6	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	26.1	237	45.1	10	24	72.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	23.8	327	32.9	4	35	38.6
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	7.9	104	10.4	6	11	31.9

DONIPHAN

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.0	13	12.9	9	10	-61.4
Children in Poverty	.	428	21.0	9	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.4	423	25.5	6	25	10.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	38.0	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.2	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.9	88	88.0	5	86	11.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	41.4	66	58.5	10	70	31.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.7	8	7.9	8	7	-67.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	85.8	40	91.1	2	53	6.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	16.7	296	22.4	7	27	34.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	70.4	64	63.4	10	76	-10.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	19.1	20	19.8	7	18	-3.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	93.9	101	84.2	7	81	-10.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	7	3	4	8	20
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	136.1	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	20.2	20	9.4	1	47	53.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	17	8.0	3	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	12.0	34	15.9	3	24	-32.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

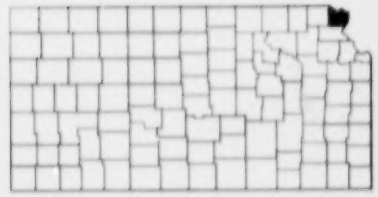
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	8,134	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.1%	88.4%
Black	1.9%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,317	$32,066
Unemployment	6.4%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Troy



Doniphan County enjoyed an increase in Head Start availability for its children. In addition, the rate of reported child abuse and neglect was down and was one of the lowest in Kansas. This county did have a high rate of children in poverty relative to most other counties. A further concern was the decline in the rate of post-secondary education and training.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

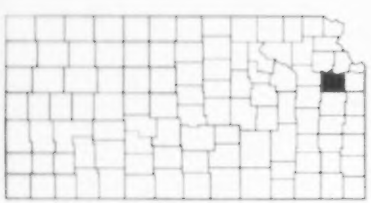
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	81,798	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	20.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	87.2%	88.4%
Black	4.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	2.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.6%	4.8%
Median Family Income	$35,634	$32,986
Unemployment	4.2%	3.8%

1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services

County Seat: Lawrence



DOUGLAS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.1	69	6.8	4	10	8.2
Children in Poverty	.	2,814	15.0	6	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	18.5	2,232	17.8	2	25	3.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	19.7	1	6.9	6	26	65.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.8	4	3.9	6	7	49.9
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.4	913	89.8	3	86	2.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	73.4	728	80.8	3	70	10.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.1	89	8.7	9	7	-41.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	26.8	78	26.7	8	53	-0.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	31.5	4,365	31.7	2	27	0.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	72.1	464	60.3	10	76	-16.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	8.9	94	9.2	2	18	3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.6	770	82.7	8	81	0.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9	214	8	7	8	7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	35.4	3	30.1	6	68	15.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	50.7	973	45.2	7	47	10.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	383	17.8	6	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	17.3	519	23.8	6	24	-37.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	51.3	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	18.6	.	.	.	11	

Douglas County had good news in some areas of children's health. The percentage of births that included early prenatal care increased further this year and was about equal to the state rate. Childhood immunizations posted similar findings. However, the percent of low-birth-weight babies had a rather substantial increase this year. An additional concern was the percentage of high school graduates who sought additional education or training, a rate that declined this year.

EDWARDS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING					
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.1	1	3.4	2	10
Children in Poverty	.	146	16.0	7	17
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.4	174	26.8	6	25
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY					
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	28.3	.	.	.	26
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.1	.	.	.	7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	79.7	22	75.9	9	86
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	56.2	36	81.0	3	70
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.1	.	0.0	1	7
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION					
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.1	130	22.6	6	27
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.5	35	83.3	4	76
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	20.3	8	27.6	9	18
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.4	42	80.8	8	81
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING					
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	1	1	2	8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	100.8	1	476.2	10	68
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	64.8	44	49.5	8	47
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	37	41.6	10	19
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL					
Juvenile Court Filings	18.0	6	6.8	2	24
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	40.1	.	.	.	35
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	9.6	.	.	.	11

Percent Change Over Time: Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better

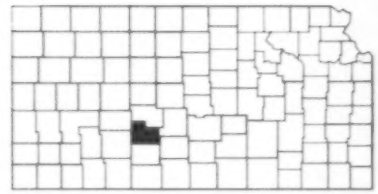
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,787	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	94.2%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	5.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,784	$32,966
Unemployment	3.4%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Kinsley



Edwards County made great strides in the full immunization of its children, attaining a rate among the top third in Kansas. There were areas in need of further attention, too. The percentage of births to mothers who lacked high school degrees, already high in the base years, increased further. Edwards County continued to lack a Head Start program for its eligible children.

ELK

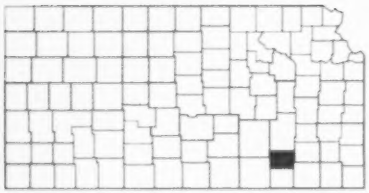
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,327	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	21.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.3%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,091	$32,066
Unemployment	4.3%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Howard



Elk County should take pride in the rate with which its young people completed high school. A substantial improvement occurred this year. The improvement in childhood immunization rate this year was another cause for celebration. Concern existed with the low rate of child care availability. In addition, close to one-in-four Elk County children lived in poverty.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.0	4	12.9	9	10	-43.6
Children in Poverty	.	172	24.0	10	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	42.0	361	41.6	10	25	1.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	1	190.1	10	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.5	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.3	25	80.6	8	86	-3.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	43.5	20	78.4	4	70	-80.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.5	4	12.9	10	7	-71.6
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	7.6	34	7.2	10	27	-6.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	69.7	37	66.1	10	76	-5.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	20.3	8	25.8	9	18	-27.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	78.6	56	91.8	4	84	16.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9	13	17	10	8	-97
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	0.0	1	505.1	10	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	47.3	65	88.3	10	47	-86.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	13	17.7	6	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	31.1	19	25.7	7	24	17.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	4	.	.	11	

ELLIS

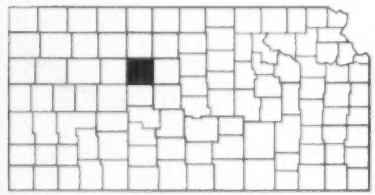
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.6	34	10.1	7	10	-81.4
Children in Poverty	.	927	13.0	4	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	16.6	642	16.4	1	25	0.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	26.3	2	38.2	7	26	-45.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.4	2	6.0	6	7	36.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	92.5	308	91.9	2	86	0.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	61.6	185	79.1	3	70	28.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.0	23	6.9	6	7	-15.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	66.4	86	67.4	4	53	1.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	33.2	1,516	32.4	2	27	2.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.2	224	78.6	5	76	1.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	3.9	27	8.1	2	18	-107.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.4	285	93.1	3	81	5.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5	57	7	6	8	-50
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	35.0	1	40.6	7	68	-16.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	32.2	132	18.1	2	47	43.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	28	3.8	2	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	13.6	140	19.1	5	24	-41.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	44.0	347	44.2	9	35	-0.4
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	5.1	51	6.5	4	11	-27.7

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	26,004	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.0%	88.4%
Black	0.4%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.6%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$31,144	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.5%	3.8%

County Seat: Hays



Ellis County posted a positive increase in the rate of childhood immunizations, a rate that places this county among the top third in the state. The percentage of Ellis County births that included early prenatal care remained high. This county also boasted a high rate of child care availability. Of concern, the percentage of all births that were to single teen mothers increased substantially this year.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

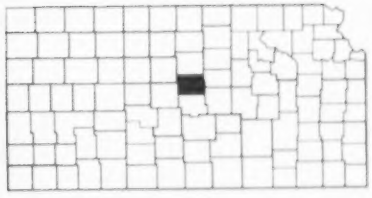
ELLSWORTH

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,586	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	94.6%	88.4%
Black	2.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,332	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.4%	3.8%

County Seat: Ellsworth



Ellsworth County enjoyed improvement in the percentage of births that included early prenatal care, an important contributor to childhood outcomes. Early childhood immunizations also increased as well; this year's rate was among the top twenty percent statewide. There were troubling areas as well. The rate of juvenile court filings increased and was well above the state rate. The percentage of low-birth-weight babies also took a turn for the worse this year.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.1	1	2.4	1	10	69.7
Children in Poverty	.	186	12.0	2	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.1	257	19.1	2	25	4.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	17.5	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.7	1	24.4	10	7	665.9
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.8	37	90.2	2	86	4.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	63.7	53	86.9	2	70	36.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.2	5	12.2	10	7	95.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	81.6	15	86.3	3	53	5.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.3	280	30.4	3	27	15.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	71.3	72	71.3	9	76	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.9	5	12.2	4	18	5.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.5	101	95.3	2	81	3.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	3	2	3	8	55
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	48.1	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	67.0	27	18.0	2	47	73.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	3	2.0	1	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	39.7	93	62.8	10	24	58.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

FINNEY

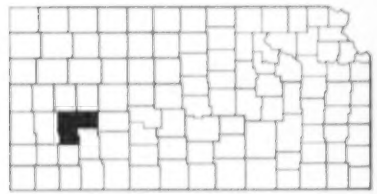
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	13.0	122	13.3	9	10	2.4
Children in Poverty	.	2,104	17.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	34.2	2,971	34.9	10	25	2.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	39.7	3	30.5	7	26	23.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.5	7	7.7	7	7	-38.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	61.1	504	55.9	10	86	-8.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	42.4	528	61.2	9	70	44.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.8	64	7.0	6	7	-20.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	75.6	167	85.3	3	53	12.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	15.9	1,657	17.7	9	27	11.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.9	196	68.3	9	76	-14.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	43.5	415	45.7	10	18	4.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	60.4	287	56.3	10	81	-6.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	10	255	18	10	8	77
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	62.8	1	31.6	6	68	50.1
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	9.6	551	42.0	6	47	-338.0
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	426	32.4	9	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	21.0	273	20.4	5	24	2.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	29.4	413	31.4	3	35	6.6
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.8	154	11.7	8	11	-72.1

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	33,070	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	34.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	69.3%	88.4%
Black	1.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	3.5%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	25.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$31,383	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.9%	3.8%

County Seat: Garden City



Finney County experienced an increase in the number of eligible children participating in Head Start. Additional good news were the reduction in mortality rates for children and in the rate of violent deaths for teenagers. Concerns exist as well. The rate of out-of-home placement has increased. In addition, the high school graduation rate declined further and was among the lowest in Kansas, clearly a troubling finding.

FORD

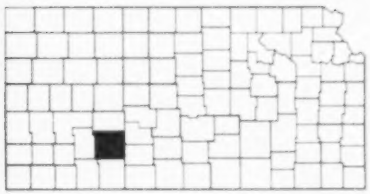
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	27,463	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	29.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	80.5%	88.4%
Black	1.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	14.9%	5.8%
Median Family Income	$30,613	$32,066
Unemployment	2.9%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Dodge City



Ford County made great strides in the percentage of children fully immunized by age two. This county also boasted further improvement in an already positive Head Start participation rate. Among the concerns for children in Ford County was the high rate of children living in poverty. In addition, the rate of births with early prenatal care, despite slight improvement, was still among the lowest in Kansas.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.4	74	11.8	8	10	13.5
Children in Poverty	.	1,771	21.0	9	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	36.6	2,447	42.2	10	25	15.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	39.6	3	45.2	8	26	14.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.9	8	12.8	9	7	85.5
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	67.2	397	63.5	10	86	5.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	52.2	349	70.0	7	70	34.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.4	44	7.0	6	7	9.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	103.6	216	129.1	1	53	24.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	25.4	1,495	23.9	6	27	6.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.8	266	77.3	6	76	4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	39.0	294	47.0	10	18	20.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	67.9	344	73.3	10	81	8.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7	94	10	7	8	43
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	114.2	3	120.3	8	68	5.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	38.1	536	58.4	9	47	53.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	331	36.1	9	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	36.8	562	61.2	10	24	66.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.8	286	36.6	6	35	8.3
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.4	105	13.5	9	11	110.9

FRANKLIN

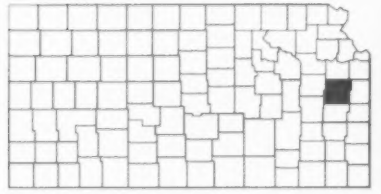
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.0	32	9.4	6	10	6.0
Children in Poverty	.	1,142	17.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.6	1,045	21.8	4	25	3.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	31.7	3	59.2	9	26	86.4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.1	4	11.7	9	7	16.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.7	303	89.1	3	86	6.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	49.6	255	71.8	7	70	44.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.6	34	10.0	9	7	33.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	22.0	20	22.5	8	53	2.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.8	1,162	24.9	5	27	0.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	68.1	214	69.7	9	76	2.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	19.6	65	19.1	7	18	2.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.8	307	89.0	6	81	7.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8	50	7	6	8	17
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	75.5	0.0	0.0	6	68	100.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	35.5	286	41.2	6	47	16.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	149	21.5	7	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	24.1	150	21.5	6	24	10.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	18.2	52	27.9	2	35	53.4
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	3.8	10	5.3	3	11	41.4

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	21,994	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.4%	88.4%
Black	1.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,210	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.3%	3.8%

County Seat: Ottawa



Franklin County children benefited from efforts made to obtain a large increase in the childhood immunization rate. The rate of births to children with early prenatal care also increased and was above the state rate this year. Concerns for Franklin County included a rate of post-secondary education and training in the bottom 20 percent statewide and an increased rate of reported child abuse and neglect.

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GEARY

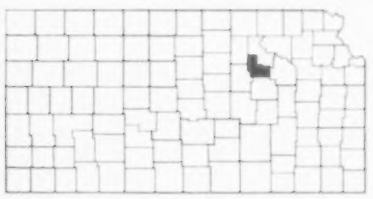
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	30,453	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	29.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	66.4%	88.4%
Black	22.9%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	3.8%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.2%	5.8%
Median Family Income	$24,231	$32,960
Unemployment	6.2%	4.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Junction City



Geary County experienced a slight reduction in the percentage of births to mothers without a high school diploma, maintaining a rate below the statewide level. More good news is that the percentage of children fully immunized by age two improved this year. There were concerns for children as well. A high percentage of Geary County children resided in poverty. In addition, despite a slight increase this year, the graduation rate was among the bottom ten percent in Kansas.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.0	69	10.8	7	10	-34.8
Children in Poverty	.	2,173	23.0	10	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	37.2	2,532	38.6	10	25	-3.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	48.4	3	52.6	8	26	-8.7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	11.9	7	11.0	8	7	7.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	69.3	480	75.6	9	86	9.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	53.6	409	70.2	7	70	31.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.6	58	9.1	9	7	-6.6
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	63.6	239	94.5	2	53	48.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.6	1,278	24.1	6	27	11.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	52.3	183	70.1	9	76	34.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.4	84	13.2	4	18	8.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	64.4	261	69.2	10	81	7.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7	51	6	6	8	14
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	136.7	0.0	0.0	6	68	-100.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	75.2	622	80.8	10	47	-7.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	441	57.3	10	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	41.9	376	50.8	10	24	-21.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	26.0	253	23.2	1	35	10.7
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	5.8	61	5.6	3	11	-3.3

GOVE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.0	0	0.0	1	10	100.0
Children in Poverty	.	80	9.0	1	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	12.9	99	13.3	1	25	53.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	92.1	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	16.9	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.6	25	78.1	8	86	30.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	52.1	42	78.0	4	70	49.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.8	4	12.5	10	7	84.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	113.9	17	124.2	1	53	9.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.6	110	20.1	7	27	2.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.0	51	89.5	2	76	9.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	11.4	2	6.3	2	18	45.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	98.1	57	96.6	2	81	14.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	1	1	2	8	60
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	98.0	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	23.3	15	17.6	2	47	24.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	3	3.5	2	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	7.9	3	3.5	1	24	55.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

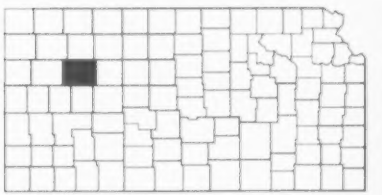
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,231	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.4%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,275	$32,966
Unemployment	2.1%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Gove



Gove County boasted positive educational outcomes. The high school graduation rate was among the highest in Kansas. A high percentage of graduates pursued post-secondary education. Among the additional good news is that less than one in ten Gove County children lived in poverty. Potential concerns existed, including a reduction this year in the percentage of births with early prenatal care and a drop in child care availability.

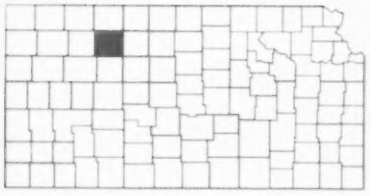
GRAHAM

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,543	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.8%	88.4%
Black	2.9%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,742	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.0%	3.8%

County Seat: Hill City



Graham County produced very positive educational outcomes this year. High school graduation rates increased to well above the state average. The percentage of students seeking post-high-school education or training was in the top ten percent statewide. Despite this good news, there were areas of concern. These included a childhood immunization rate in the bottom ten percent statewide, despite a large increase this year. In addition, a relatively high percentage of Graham County youth indicated they had used alcohol in the past month.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.7	1	6.3	4	10	9.4
Children in Poverty	.	163	18.0	8	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	26.6	160	28.7	7	25	7.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	1	155.0	10	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.1	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	92.1	16	100.0	1	86	8.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	33.3	20	58.3	10	70	75.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.7	.	0.0	1	7	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	62.5	17	71.3	4	53	14.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.4	150	26.9	4	27	5.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.8	36	94.7	1	76	18.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	9.4	3	18.8	7	18	100.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.7	38	92.7	3	81	4.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	11	1	1	2	8	89
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	0.0	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	32.9	10	11.6	1	47	64.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	.	0.0	1	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	21.0	17	20.0	5	24	4.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	38.2	66	40.0	7	35	4.6
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	2.9	9	5.5	3	11	91.6

GRANT

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	13.2	25	17.0	10	10	29.3
Children in Poverty	.	423	16.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.4	519	28.2	7	25	0.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	38.0	3	139.4	10	26	266.3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.8	2	13.6	9	7	135.1
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	69.2	109	74.7	9	86	7.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	45.9	91	69.5	8	70	51.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.2	15	10.2	9	7	96.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	111.0	52	108.6	2	53	2.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.3	317	16.0	9	27	21.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.8	76	75.2	7	76	6.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	39.6	69	47.3	10	18	19.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	81.0	101	80.8	8	81	0.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	32	11	8	8	208
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	97.5	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	5.9	101	35.4	5	47	501.0
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	67	23.5	7	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	17.3	86	29.6	8	24	70.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

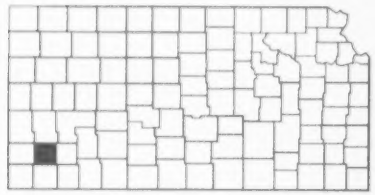
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,159	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	34.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	76.8%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.0%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.5%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	21.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$32,241	$32,966
Unemployment	3.6%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Ulysses



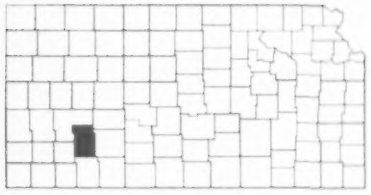
Grant County displayed progress in immunizations and prenatal care. While room for improvement remained, the immunization rate increased substantially this year. The same can be said for the percentage of births with early prenatal care, which showed a change for the better. There was concern for the percentage of births to unmarried teenagers. This figure increased compared to the base years and was among the bottom ten percent statewide.

GRAY

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,396	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	32.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.1%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.2%	5.8%
Median Family Income	$28,878	$32,960
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.3%	3.8%

County Seat: Cimarron



Gray County should be proud of its educational accomplishments. This county increased an already high graduation rate and boasted a rate in the top 20 percent of all counties. The percentage of Gray County youth seeking post-high school education or training increased above an already high base rate. There were areas of concern as well. The percentage of births to mothers who have not completed high school increased slightly and remained in the bottom ten percent. Births with early prenatal care declined somewhat this year as well.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.3	2	2.5	1	10	53.0
Children in Poverty	.	188	11.0	2	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	17.4	284	21.6	4	25	24.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	1	75.0	9	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.3	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	82.9	57	71.3	9	86	14.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.9	71	74.3	5	70	12.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.6	5	6.3	5	7	35.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	47.5	15	50.1	6	53	5.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.9	291	24.2	5	27	15.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.8	67	85.9	3	76	1.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	31.9	26	32.5	10	18	1.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	91.2	78	96.3	2	81	5.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1	8	4	5	8	300
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	188.3	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.2	44	24.2	3	47	473
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	10	5.5	2	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	17.0	56	30.9	8	24	81.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.6	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	5.8	3	.	.	11	

GREELEY

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.2	1	5.9	3	10	12.9
Children in Poverty	.	62	11.0	2	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	23.3	86	24.0	5	25	3.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	90.7	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.3	12	70.6	10	86	15.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	56.8	18	94.4	1	70	66.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.2	2	11.8	10	7	182.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.8	70	17.9	9	27	17.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	89.1	15	83.3	4	76	6.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	22.1	4	23.5	8	18	6.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.8	18	94.7	3	81	1.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1	6	11	8	8	1175
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	206.2	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	8	14.5	2	47	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	5	9.1	3	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	5.4	0	0.0	1	24	100.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	8	.	.	11	

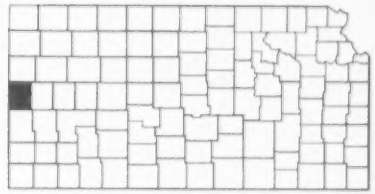
Percent Change Over Time: 100 80 60 40 20 0 20 40 60 80 100 — Worse — Better

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	1,774	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	30.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	93.5%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.0%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$31,989	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.2%	3.8%

County Seat: Tribune



Greeley County maintained a graduation rate that was among the best in Kansas this year. Immunization rates gave further cause for celebration, where Greeley County improved dramatically to post one of the better rates of all counties. There was some cause for concern as births with early prenatal care were down this year as was the availability of child care.

GREENWOOD

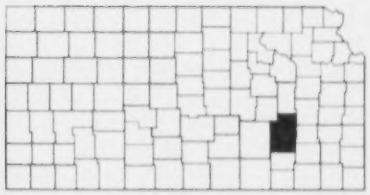
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,847	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.8%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.9%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$24,740	$32,966
Unemployment	4.7%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Eureka



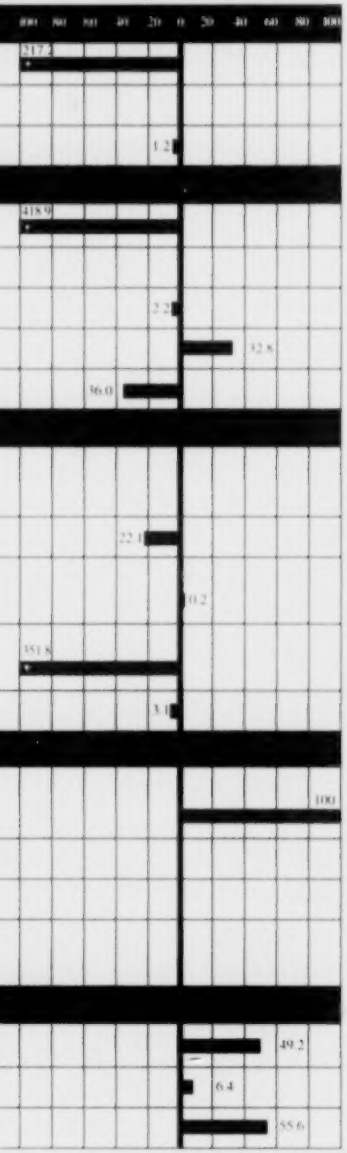
Greenwood County residents should be quite pleased with the progress identified in this year's childhood immunization rate, an area showing substantial improvement. Another high point for this county was the lower percentage of births to mothers with no high school degree. Troubling areas included an increase in the rate of juvenile court filings. Additionally, one-in-five children in this county live in poverty.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.1	9	11.4	8	10	2.8
Children in Poverty	.	391	20.0	9	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	31.1	412	32.9	9	25	5.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.6	1	12.7	9	7	67.5
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.5	60	80.0	8	86	1.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	37.3	55	72.1	6	70	93.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.3	9	11.4	10	7	56.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.7	211	17.0	9	27	9.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	74.6	61	75.3	7	76	1.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	22.4	12	15.2	5	18	32.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.6	81	90.0	5	81	2.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	30	14	9	8	245
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	183.5	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	29.6	84	41.9	6	47	41.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	41	20.4	7	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	16.8	82	41.1	9	24	144.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.1	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.3	.	.	.	11	

HAMILTON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING					
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.3	4	13.8	9	10
Children in Poverty	.	91	15.0	6	17
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	29.3	147	29.6	8	25
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY					
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	43.9	1	227.8	10	26
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	1	34.5	10	7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	79.6	21	77.8	8	86
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.9	32	87.5	1	70
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.1	2	6.9	6	7
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION					
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.6	82	20.7	7	27
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.7	26	83.9	3	76
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	8.7	11	39.3	10	18
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	100.0	31	96.9	1	81
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING					
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8	0	0	2	8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	135.9	.	.	.	68
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	29	47.3	7	47
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	19	31.0	9	19
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL					
Juvenile Court Filings	9.7	3	4.9	2	24
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.3	38	34.0	5	35
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.1	2	1.8	1	11

Percent Change Over Time: Worse ← → Better



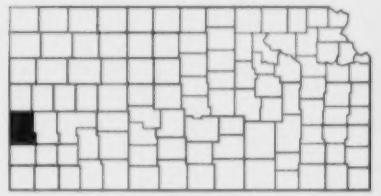
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,388	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	92.6%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	5.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$29,483	$32,966
Unemployment	1.8%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Syracuse



Hamilton County children graduated high school at a rate equal to the top ten percent of all counties. A high percentage of high school graduates in Hamilton County seek additional training or education. This high base-year rate was maintained in the current year. Despite the positive educational outcomes, a notable concern exists in the percentage of births to mothers who had no high school degree. This rate increased substantially this year and was among the bottom ten percent statewide.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

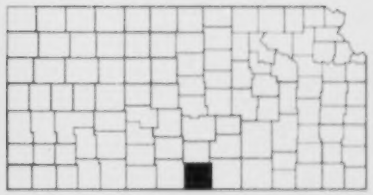
HARPER

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,124	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.6%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,358	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.8%	3.8%

County Seat: Anthony



Harper County citizens should be pleased with the high level of prenatal care among expectant mothers. The rate of early care increased this year, surpassing the statewide average. More good news, is that the immunization rate made a large jump this year. Some concern exists in the educational area. The percentage of births that were to mothers who lacked a high school degree increased substantially this year. This performance ranks in the bottom 20 percent in Kansas.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.2	7	11.1	8	10	-53.3
Children in Poverty	.	307	18.0	8	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.0	337	26.6	6	25	5.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	15.2	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.9	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	80.9	57	90.5	2	86	11.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	62.3	58	82.0	2	70	31.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.1	3	4.8	3	7	-17.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.9	307	28.0	3	27	3.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.1	55	73.3	8	76	-3.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.8	14	22.2	8	18	-32.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.8	75	86.2	7	81	4.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	19	11	9	8	-187.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	260.0	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	11.8	103	61.4	9	47	-423.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	36	21.5	7	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	18.8	43	25.8	7	24	-37.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.7	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.9	7	.	.	11	

HARVEY

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.8	34	8.3	5	10	-5.2
Children in Poverty	.	1,122	13.0	4	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.5	1,244	21.3	4	25	-3.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	27.8	0	0.0	6	26	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.2	3	7.3	7	7	21.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.9	364	88.3	4	86	-5.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	64.9	294	77.5	4	70	19.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.8	18	4.4	3	7	9.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	58.1	49	59.8	5	53	2.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	29.0	1,581	27.5	4	27	-5.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.8	299	79.9	5	76	4.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.2	63	15.3	5	18	1.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	83.3	374	81.7	8	81	-2.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9	32	3	4	8	50.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	84.3	4	168.6	9	68	-100.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	21.2	200	22.6	3	47	-6.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	88	9.9	4	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	23.0	260	29.1	8	24	-26.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	24.2	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	5.7	.	.	.	11	

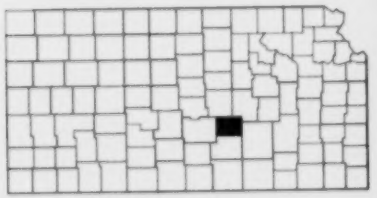
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	31,028	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.3%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	91.9%	88.4%
Black	1.7%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.7%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	5.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$32,955	$32,966
Unemployment	2.9%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Newton



Harvey County attained further improvement in an already high rate of births with early prenatal care. In addition, this county saw close to a 20-percent increase in early childhood immunizations. Both results increase the likelihood of raising healthy children. Sadly, the rate of violent deaths of Harvey County teens increased this year. In addition, the juvenile court filings were up.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

HASKELL

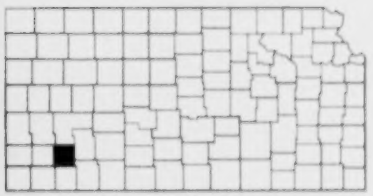
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,886	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	32.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	85.0%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	14.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,632	$32,960
Unemployment	2.5%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Sublette



Haskell County high school graduates have a high rate of participation in subsequent training or education. This county boasts a relatively low rate of poverty and substantial Head Start involvement among eligible children. There were potential concerns for children's health. The percentage of births with early prenatal care declined from the base-year rate. Although immunizations improved slightly, both these rates were among the bottom ten percent in Kansas.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.4	6	7.5	5	10	
Children in Poverty	.	145	11.0	2	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	25.6	291	31.5	9	25	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	1	100.6	10	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.3	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	65.9	46	57.5	10	86	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	50.3	34	54.5	10	70	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.2	7	8.8	9	7	
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	101.1	10	98.4	2	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	17.9	176	18.9	8	27	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.4	40	83.3	4	76	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	31.8	31	38.8	10	18	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.6	48	84.2	7	81	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2	0	0	2	8	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	126.2	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	5.9	49	35.7	5	47	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	38	27.7	8	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	11.5	10	7.1	2	24	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

HODGEMAN

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.9	0	0.0	1	10	
Children in Poverty		76	12.0	2	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.3	95	19.2	3	25	5.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	41.1	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	19.8	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.1	13	81.3	7	86	1.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	61.3	25	80.0	3	70	30.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.9	1	6.3	5	7	29.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	14.4	56	13.3	10	27	3.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	87.2	21	77.8	6	76	10.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.0	.	0.0	1	18	100.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.6	27	96.4	2	81	0.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2	0	0	2	8	100.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	296.7	.	0.0	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	9.3	5	7.8	1	47	15.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	5	7.8	3	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	5.0	1	1.6	1	24	68.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

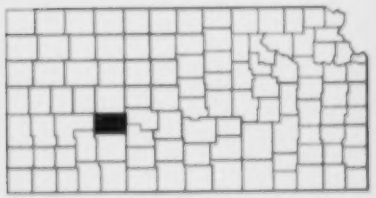
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,177	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.4%	88.4%
Black	1.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,296	$32,966
Unemployment	1.8%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Jetmore



Hodgeman County obtained large improvement in the percentage of fully immunized children. Additional good news included a high school graduation rate that was among the best in Kansas, well above the state average. The poverty rate for children was relatively low; just over one-in-ten children lived in poverty. While still above the state average, also noted was a decline in the rate of post-secondary education or training.

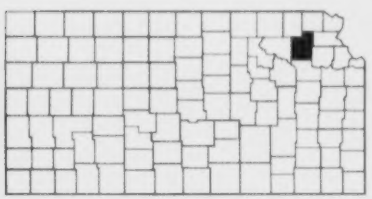
JACKSON

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	11,525	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	92.6%	88.4%
Black	0.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	5.9%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,572	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	5.5%	3.8%

County Seat: Holton



Jackson County students improved their rate of high school graduation slightly from the base years. This performance continued to be above the state average. Immunization rates for this year represented more good news with rates well above the state rate and among the top 20 percent in Kansas. There were concerns, however. Youth in Jackson County had rather low rates of participation in post-secondary education or training. Reports of child abuse and neglect increased as well.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.1	17	10.9	8	10	53.1
Children in Poverty	.	548	16.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	21.1	521	21.6	4	25	2.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	30.7	2	77.8	9	26	153.4 *
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.7	0	0.0	5	7	100.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	93.5	139	89.1	3	86	4.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	73.5	118	86.8	2	70	18.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.1	7	4.5	3	7	12.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	88.2	40	77.2	4	53	12.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.0	593	25.9	4	27	7.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	69.8	113	69.3	9	76	0.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.9	18	11.5	3	18	16.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.1	163	89.1	6	81	1.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5	23	6	6	8	22
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	93.5	1	104.9	8	68	12.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	35.6	169	48.1	7	47	35.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	. .	82	23.3	7	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	13.9	65	18.5	4	24	33.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	45.1	254	48.5	9	35	7.7
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	9.6	65	12.4	9	11	29.4

JEFFERSON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.4	22	10.9	7	10	70.3
Children in Poverty		619	13.0	4	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	17.0	713	16.0	1	25	5.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	22.0	1	26.9	6	26	22.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	14.2	3	14.9	9	7	4.9
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.6	178	88.6	4	86	0.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	66.5	224	79.1	3	70	18.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.3	10	5.0	3	7	42.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	56.6	34	56.7	6	53	0.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.9	838	24.7	5	27	3.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	66.5	209	69.7	9	76	4.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.6	30	14.9	5	18	39.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.6	300	86.2	7	81	1.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6	67	13	9	8	110
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	86.7				68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	36.0	273	54.1	8	47	50.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children		132	26.2	8	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	14.2	119	23.2	6	24	63.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.1	90	46.6	9	35	45.2
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	8.3	30	15.6	10	11	87.8

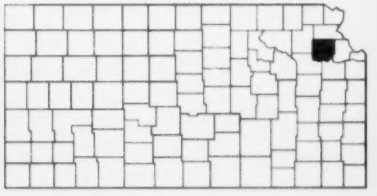
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	15,905	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.5%	88.4%
Black	0.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$33,460	$32,966
Unemployment	4.9%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Oskaloosa



Jefferson County continued to post good results for births with early prenatal care. This county also experienced a decline in percentage of low-birth-weight babies, achieving a rate in the top 30 percent statewide. While the rate of post-secondary education and training improved somewhat this year, the rate was still below the state average. A high percentage of Jefferson County youth reported having used alcohol in the month prior to being surveyed.

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A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

JEWELL

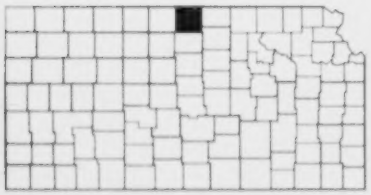
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,251	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.4%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$21,875	$32,966
Unemployment	2.5%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Mankato



Jewell County made great strides in childhood immunizations. Rates improved from the base year and were in the top ten percent statewide this year. High school graduation rates, among the highest in Kansas, were another cause for celebration in Jewell County. A high percentage of graduates in this county sought additional education or training. The availability of child care was a potential concern; despite a slight improvement this year, the rate lagged well behind the state average.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	3.8	1	3.4	2	10	9.9
Children in Poverty	.	146	15.0	6	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.8	188	29.1	8	25	4.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	81.6	1	142.0	10	26	74.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.5	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.8	25	86.2	6	86	0.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	72.9	32	87.5	1	70	20.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	3.8	1	3.4	2	7	9.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	169.6	18	178.5	1	53	5.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	13.3	105	16.9	9	27	27.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.8	40	83.3	4	76	0.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	7.8	2	6.9	2	18	11.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	98.2	48	96.0	2	81	2.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2	2	2	3	8	19
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	0.0	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	19.3	47	48.2	7	47	149
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	25	25.6	8	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	13.0	5	5.2	2	24	60.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.3	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	2.0	3	.	.	11	

JOHNSON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	3.4	206	3.3	2	10	3.9
Children in Poverty	.	6,723	6.0	1	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	6.6	4,425	6.2	1	25	5.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	17.1	8	9.5	6	26	44.7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.5	32	5.1	6	7	9.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	93.5	5,863	95.0	1	86	1.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	68.1	4,095	82.6	2	70	21.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.6	351	5.6	4	7	1.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	47.4	233	49.2	6	53	3.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	35.9	28,648	36.3	1	27	35.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.8	3,574	85.7	3	76	3.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	5.6	345	5.6	1	18	0.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.6	4,172	88.8	6	81	1.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2	204	2	3	8	23.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	30.5	9	30.3	6	68	0.6
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	18.4	2,361	20.4	2	47	10.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	1,130	9.8	4	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	21.3	2,881	24.4	6	24	14.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.3	466	32.6	4	35	7.6
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	7.8	182	12.7	9	11	62.8

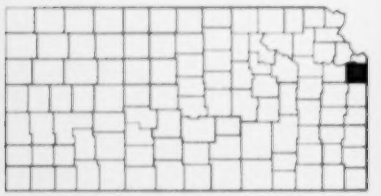
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	355,054	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	94.1%	88.4%
Black	1.9%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.6%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.0%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$50,348	$32,966
Unemployment	2.3%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Olathe



Johnson County citizens received much good news in this year's report. A very high percentage of births in this county included early prenatal care. The rate of early childhood immunizations also increased. Child care availability was among the top ten percent in Kansas. Areas for potential concern included slight increases in both the rate of juvenile court filings and in reports of child abuse and neglect.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

KEARNY

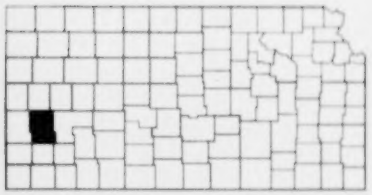
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,027	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	33.3%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	82.5%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	16.7%	5.8%
Median Family Income	$32,077	$32,966
Unemployment	2.4%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Lakin



Kearny County achieved improvement in the rate of Head Start participation for eligible children. In addition, this county's rate of early childhood immunizations improved to a rate above the state average. There were also areas of concern for this county. The percentage of births with early prenatal care remained stable, at a rate well below the state average. Child care availability declined while births to mothers who have no high school degree increased.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.1	5	6.5	4	10	28.6
Children in Poverty	.	202	14.0	5	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	31.6	444	37.9	10	25	19.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	18.2	1	91.1	10	26	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.1	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	66.2	51	66.2	10	86	0.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	63.3	65	74.3	5	70	17.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.1	6	7.8	8	7	28.6
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	44.1	15	50.6	6	53	14.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	17.8	148	15.1	10	27	15.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	72.4	57	74.0	7	76	2.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	36.8	32	41.6	10	18	13.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.1	77	82.8	8	81	0.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6	36	24	10	8	265
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	253.6	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	71	48.3	7	47	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	20	13.6	5	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	23.3	49	33.2	9	24	42.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

KINGMAN

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.0	8	8.5	5	10	8.6
Children in Poverty	.	365	15.0	6	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	23.5	362	22.9	5	25	2.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	77.7	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.2	2	21.3	10	7	107.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.9	80	85.1	7	86	2.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	63.3	65	76.6	5	70	21.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.6	7	7.4	7	7	13.6
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	33	81.8	3	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	14.0	213	13.7	10	27	2.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.8	92	88.5	2	76	5.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.6	13	14.0	4	18	3.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.6	104	85.2	7	81	2.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5	13	5	5	8	6.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	172.5	2	316.0	9	68	83.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	24.6	122	50.6	8	47	91.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	39	16.2	5	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	25.8	87	36.1	9	24	39.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	41.9	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	7.0	.	.	.	11	

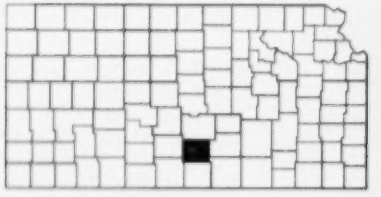
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	8,292	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.6%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,491	$32,966
Unemployment	3.6%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Kingman



Kingman County high school graduates pursued further education or training at a higher rate this year than the base years. This year's rate was in the top 20 percent statewide. More good news this year is that Head Start became available in Kingman County. Troubling areas included an increase in the rate of juvenile court filings and an increase in the rate of child abuse and neglect for Kingman County.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

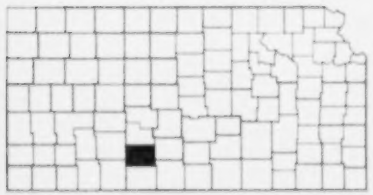
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,660	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.9%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,089	$32,966
Unemployment	2.2%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Greensburg



Kiowa County posted a dramatic improvement in early childhood immunizations this year. In addition, more than nine out of ten kindergartners were fully immunized by age two. The high school graduation rate in this county remained above the state average. Kiowa County did experience a slight decline in rate of post-secondary education or training, although this rate still remained high.

KIOWA

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.4	1	2.8	1	10	48.8
Children in Poverty	.	137	14.0	5	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	23.8	132	21.4	4	25	10.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	1	153.1	10	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	13.6	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.5	24	66.7	10	86	22.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	60.0	38	91.4	1	70	52.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.9	4	11.1	10	7	88.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	36.3	158	29.0	3	27	20.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.9	28	77.8	6	76	6.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	19.2	7	19.4	7	18	13.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.0	36	90.0	5	81	6.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8	2	2	3	8	72
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	144.2	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	32.6	46	48.9	7	47	50.0
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	36	38.3	10	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	23.5	18	19.8	5	24	15.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

LABETTE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.0	47	16.4	10	10	49.0
Children in Poverty	.	1,423	23.0	10	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.9	1,340	30.1	8	25	4.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	59.3	4	89.0	9	26	50.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	4.2	0	0.0	5	7	100.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.4	244	85.3	6	86	11.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	44.4	188	62.3	9	70	40.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.0	8	2.8	2	7	59.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	70.6	90	75.6	4	53	7.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.1	1,094	27.3	4	27	4.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.2	201	75.6	7	76	3.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	25.2	62	21.7	8	18	13.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	81.8	266	80.1	9	81	2.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9	27	4	5	8	53
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	44.0	2	102.5	8	68	133.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	87.1	508	80.0	10	47	8.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	232	36.5	9	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	17.0	134	21.2	6	24	24.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	37.2	260	50.3	10	35	35.2
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.1	104	20.1	10	11	230.5

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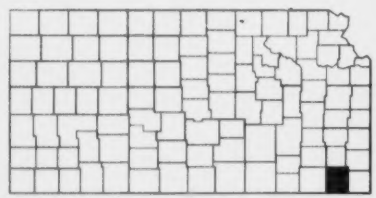
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	23,693	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	91.4%	88.4%
Black	4.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.7%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,919	$32,966
Unemployment	5.3%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Oswego



Labette County experienced a positive decline in the rate of children who resided in out-of-home placements. The percentage of low-birth-weight babies declined further and was in the top 20 percent of all counties. Labette County also experienced substantial improvement in early childhood immunizations, although this year's rate lagged behind the statewide level. As an additional concern, a high percentage of young people reported recent use of alcohol.

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A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

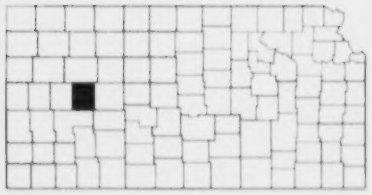
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,375	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.9%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,506	$32,966
Unemployment	4.9%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Dighton



Lane County residents had much to celebrate with respect to educational achievement. The high school graduation rate in Lane County was among the best in Kansas. The percentage of graduates who sought additional education or training improved from the base year and was well above the state average. Some concern existed as well. While remaining well below the state rate, child abuse and neglect rates increased this year in Lane County.

LANE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	3.9	1	5.0	3	10	28.0
Children in Poverty	.	71	11.0	2	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	18.7	74	15.5	1	25	17.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	15.6	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	82.8	20	100.0	1	86	20.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.8	25	84.6	2	70	51.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	3.1	1	5.0	3	7	60.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.0	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.9	104	25.8	4	27	8.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.1	33	89.2	2	76	8.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	9.4	1	5.0	1	18	47.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	97.6	37	97.4	1	81	0.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	0	0	2	8	100
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	0.0	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	6.2	15	24.0	3	47	288.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	12	19.2	6	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	6.7	2	3.3	1	24	51.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.3	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	3.8	.	.	.	11	

LEAVENWORTH

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.1	75	8.6	6	10	6.4
Children in Poverty	.	2,418	13.0	4	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	15.7	1,871	15.4	1	25	2.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	24.7	2	13.8	6	26	44.9
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.2	6	6.9	7	7	24.9
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	90.5	758	87.3	5	86	3.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.6	598	72.8	6	70	10.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.6	59	6.8	6	7	2.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	40.7	92	42.0	7	53	3.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	15.4	2,230	17.1	9	27	10.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	69.8	518	77.0	6	76	10.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.1	115	13.3	4	18	1.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.7	673	82.0	8	81	0.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5	133	7	6	8	27
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	84.2	1	19.9	6	68	76.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	25.8	709	36.2	5	47	40.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	327	16.7	6	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	19.9	435	22.1	6	24	11.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.1	440	32.2	4	35	0.3
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	5.5	171	12.5	9	11	127.3

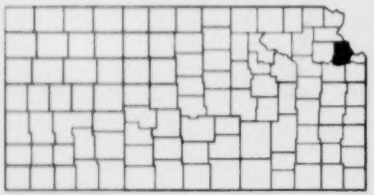
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	64,371	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	83.8%	88.4%
Black	10.7%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$36,820	$32,966
Unemployment	4.4%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Leavenworth



Leavenworth County enjoyed a reduction in all three mortality indicators, infant and child death and violent deaths for teens. Certainly that was great news. Early childhood immunization rates increased slightly this year and exceeded the state average. The percentage of births to mothers without high school degrees held steady compared to base years and was also below the state rate. Issues for attention and concern in this county included an increase in reports of child abuse and neglect and a child care availability that ranks in the bottom 20 percent statewide.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

LINCOLN

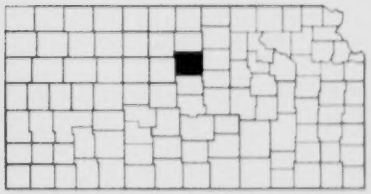
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,653	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.2%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,223	$32,066
Unemployment	3.1%	3.8%

1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services

County Seat: Lincoln



Lincoln County youth enjoyed much success in educational ventures. Despite a slight drop in graduation rates, this county continued to be well above the state average. The percentage of graduates who continue on to obtain post-secondary education or training improved as well. On the negative side, Lincoln County experienced this year a reduction in the percentage of births that included early prenatal care. A further concern was an increase in the rate of child abuse and neglect reports.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.0	0	0.0	1	10	100.0
Children in Poverty	.	125	15.0	6	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	18.6	115	18.4	2	25	0.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	92.7	22	73.3	9	86	20.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	79.1	23	77.8	4	70	1.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.0	.	0.0	1	7	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.4	146	29.4	3	27	11.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	74.4	32	80.0	5	76	7.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	6.1	3	10.0	3	18	64.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.7	40	90.9	5	81	5.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5	10	12	9	8	133.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	200.0	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	18.3	32	38.8	5	47	112.0
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	31	37.6	9	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	25.2	8	9.9	2	24	60.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

LINN

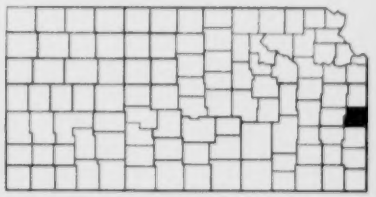
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	12.0	8	8.3	5	10	30.7
Children in Poverty	.	453	20.0	9	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.1	573	27.7	7	25	1.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	57.9	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	13.4	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	79.9	80	83.3	7	86	4.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	45.0	71	62.7	9	70	39.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.7	7	7.3	7	7	28.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	29.3	10	29.4	8	53	1.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	12.5	215	14.1	10	27	12.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	66.9	87	68.0	10	76	11.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.5	17	17.9	6	18	15.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.6	128	87.7	6	81	3.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	4	2	3	8	50
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	66.7	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	23.8	167	69.5	9	47	192.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	61	25.4	8	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	19.0	89	36.7	9	24	93.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	30.9	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.5	12	.	.	11	

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	8,254	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.5%	88.4%
Black	0.4%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$24,692	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	9.0%	3.8%

County Seat: Mound City



Linn County students continued to graduate from high school at a rate well above the state average. This county also saw a slight improvement in the rate of births with early prenatal care. The rate of early childhood immunizations increased dramatically from the base years, although it remained below the state average. Other areas of concern included the availability of child care, among the lowest in the state, and a rate of post-secondary education and training below the state average.

LOGAN

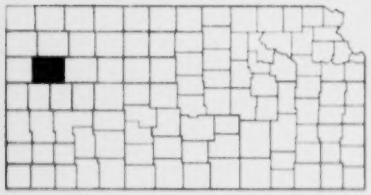
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,081	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.5%	88.4%
Black	0.4%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,731	$32,966
Unemployment	2.6%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Oakley



Logan County residents had much to celebrate with this report. Early childhood immunizations made a large jump compared to base years, landing well above the state rate this year. Educational good news abounds. High school graduation rates declined slightly but remained quite high, and the rate of post-secondary education and training was among the best in Kansas. The rate of Head Start participation among eligible children was also high. Logan County should be concerned about a sharp increase in the rate of childhood abuse and neglect reports.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.9	.	0.0	1	10	100.0
Children in Poverty	.	115	13.0	4	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.5	193	30.7	8	25	11.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	1	33.3	10	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.7	26	86.7	6	86	2.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	46.8	23	86.7	2	70	85.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.7	1	3.3	2	7	29.6
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	136.2	17	141.6	1	53	1.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.3	131	24.6	5	27	15.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.1	41	95.3	1	76	16.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.2	.	0.0	1	18	100.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	98.1	43	91.5	4	81	6.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	9	10	8	8	150
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	0.0	.	.	0	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	6.4	25	29.9	4	47	367.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	0	0.0	1	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	19.4	15	18.2	4	24	6.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	38.3	38	27.7	2	35	27.6
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.2	3	2.2	1	11	47.6

LYON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.7	51	9.9	6	10	7.5
Children in Poverty	.	1,692	18.0	8	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.8	1,888	31.1	9	25	-11.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	35.0	3	42.0	8	26	-19.8
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.2	3	5.8	6	7	18.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	77.3	403	82.6	7	86	6.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	53.1	372	86.4	2	70	62.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.7	32	6.2	5	7	6.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	44.0	80	48.8	6	53	10.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.3	1,427	22.0	7	27	8.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	70.1	260	73.2	8	76	3.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	25.7	135	27.2	9	18	-5.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	77.4	355	83.9	7	81	8.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6	48	4	5	8	29
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	53.7	2	62.9	7	68	-17.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	33.9	278	28.2	4	47	16.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	140	14.2	5	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	40.0	425	43.5	10	24	-8.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	28.1	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.9	.	.	.	11	

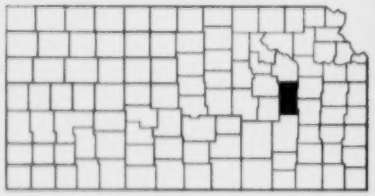
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	34,732	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	89.4%	88.4%
Black	2.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.8%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,262	$32,966
Unemployment	4.0%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Emporia



Lyon County posted substantial improvement this year in the rate of early childhood immunizations. This year's rate was in the top 20 percent of all counties. Further progress was found in the percentage of early births with prenatal care, which increased from the base years, although it remained slightly below the state rate. Concerns for Lyon County included an increase in the rate of juvenile court filings to a rate well above the state average. The percentage of births to mothers with no high school degree increased also.

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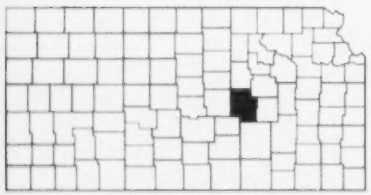
MARION

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	12,888	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.9%	88.4%
Black	0.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,127	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.3%	3.8%

County Seat: Marion



Marion County showed significant improvement in the number of juvenile court filings and youth who have ever used drugs. A decline is also seen in the percent of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree. The county's efforts toward increased immunizations is reflected in this year's rate, which now exceeds the state average. Of concern, this year there were 54 youth who used alcohol in the past 30 days, compared to 27 youth last year. The gradual decline over the past few years in the percentage of births with early prenatal care warrants attention.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.8	10	7.7	5	10	60.9
Children in Poverty	.	396	13.0	4	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.7	504	19.2	2	25	7.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	33.8	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	4.1	1	7.7	7	7	87.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.4	111	85.4	6	86	2.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	60.0	123	75.8	5	70	26.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	3.7	7	5.4	4	7	46.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	45	92.2	2	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.5	576	27.8	3	27	8.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.5	122	74.8	7	76	4.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.5	16	12.3	4	18	15.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.3	163	86.7	6	81	1.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5	10	3	4	8	39
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	76.4	1	115.9	8	68	52.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	32.2	123	38.4	5	47	19.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	92	28.8	8	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	16.5	32	10.0	2	24	39.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	22.5	54	26.8	2	35	18.9
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	3.4	6	3.0	2	11	11.9

MARSHALL

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.4	12	12.4	9	10	93.0
Children in Poverty	.	473	16.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.3	483	18.8	2	25	7.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	41.7	2	87.5	9	26	110.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	1.9	1	10.3	8	7	449.5
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	80.3	86	88.7	4	86	10.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	56.9	95	69.4	8	70	22.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.4	5	5.2	3	7	5.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	37.4	20	40.4	7	53	7.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	13.5	293	14.5	10	27	7.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.1	158	80.2	5	76	4.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.5	18	18.6	7	18	48.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	84.8	197	90.4	5	81	6.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	15	5	5	8	23
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	64.4				68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	21.4	63	21.1	2	47	1.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	51	17.1	6	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	10.7	21	7.1	2	24	33.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	23.8	123	26.0	1	35	9.3
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.7	35	7.4	5	11	58.4

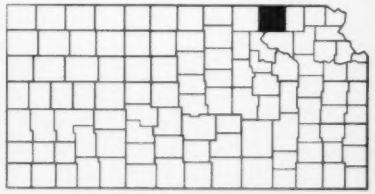
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	11,705	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.1%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,249	$32,966
Unemployment	3.0%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Marysville



Marshall County celebrated improvement in graduation rates and graduates pursuing post-secondary education. Both rates are higher than the state average. Although the county's percent of births with early prenatal care exceeded the state's average, the number of births to single teens doubled compared to the previous year. Marshall County also experienced a dramatic increase in the percent of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

McPHERSON

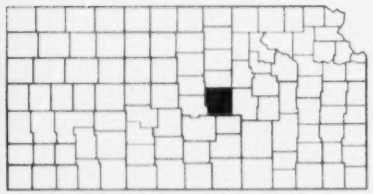
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	27,268	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.2%	88.4%
Black	0.7%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$32,482	$32,966
Unemployment	2.7%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by: Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: McPherson



McPherson County saw an increase in the percent of births with early prenatal care. The unemployment rate dropped, and a greater percentage of eligible three- and four-year-olds participated in the local Head Start program. Of concern was the 66 births to mothers without a high school degree this year, compared to 52 last year. Dramatic, increased rates in all areas of social behavior and control also demand attention.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.9	26	7.4	4	10	26.3
Children in Poverty	.	825	11.0	2	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	13.7	645	12.3	1	25	10.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	27.7	1	17.6	6	26	36.7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.1	3	8.6	8	7	5.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.0	307	88.2	4	86	5.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	70.1	228	71.8	7	70	2.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.2	19	5.4	4	7	4.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	55.3	60	65.7	5	53	19.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.4	1,118	21.7	7	27	7.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.5	245	73.6	8	76	7.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.2	66	18.9	7	18	24.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	83.9	333	89.0	6	81	6.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	32	4	5	8	10
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	60.1	3	162.4	8	68	170.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	39.6	323	42.2	6	47	6.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	109	14.2	5	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	9.4	101	13.2	3	24	40.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	26.0	148	38.5	7	35	47.9
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	2.7	17	4.5	2	11	66.6

MEADE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 0 → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.5	6	9.1	6	10	40.2
Children in Poverty	.	143	12.0	2	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.3	111	17.5	2	25	21.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	42.8	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.2	2	30.3	10	7	358.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.6	45	68.2	10	86	13.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	54.9	44	82.4	2	70	50.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.8	5	7.6	7	7	29.6
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.6	150	18.4	8	27	1.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.2	41	80.4	4	76	0.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	24.3	13	20.0	8	18	17.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	79.5	51	94.4	3	81	18.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5	4	3	4	8	31
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	74.7	1	339.0	9	68	354.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	12.5	47	37.8	5	47	203.0
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	36	29.0	8	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	17.7	52	42.0	10	24	137.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

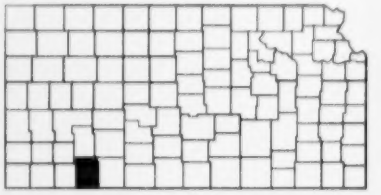
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,247	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	94.7%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.7%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,857	$32,966
Unemployment	2.0%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Meade



Meade County continued to show annual improvement in the percentage of kindergartners who are fully immunized by the age of two. The county celebrated its high school graduation rate of over 94 percent, which far exceeds the state average. While the percent of births to mothers without a high school degree declined, there was an increase in the percent of births to single teens. The decline in percent of births with early prenatal care places Meade County in the lowest ten percent for the state. The county is also ranked in the state's worst ten percent for juvenile court filings.

MIAMI

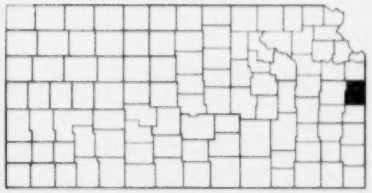
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	23,466	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.7%	88.4%
Black	2.4%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$34,424	$32,966
Unemployment	3.9%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Paola



Miami County celebrated another year of significant increase in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two. The county's rate now exceeds the state average. There was a notable rise in child care availability. Compared to last year, there were half as many youth who reported ever using other drugs. The increase in juvenile court filings and percent of youth who used alcohol in the past 30 days deserves some attention.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.4	23	7.7	5	10	4.1
Children in Poverty	.	907	13.0	4	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.4	838	18.3	2	25	10.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	26.1	2	36.6	7	26	40.2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.0	2	6.7	7	7	16.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.8	268	90.2	3	86	1.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	49.3	209	71.4	7	70	44.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.2	16	5.4	4	7	13.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	48.2	40	48.7	6	53	10.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.9	1,342	27.6	4	27	25.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	75.9	170	70.2	9	76	7.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.1	33	11.1	3	18	15.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.2	242	80.1	8	81	2.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	10	1	2	8	67
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	107.6	2	94.1	7	68	13.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	47.0	310	41.1	6	47	12.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	134	17.8	6	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	15.1	123	16.1	4	24	7.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.4	327	38.7	7	35	15.6
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.7	90	10.6	7	11	59.6

MITCHELL

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.7	5	6.5	4	10	13.3
Children in Poverty	.	229	12.0	2	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.4	287	19.0	2	25	14.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	43.0	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.9	1	13.0	9	7	157.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.4	68	88.3	4	86	1.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.6	61	77.6	4	70	39.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.6	5	6.5	5	7	41.6
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	30.5	394	34.2	2	27	12.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.9	74	70.5	9	76	12.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	9.0	7	9.1	2	18	1.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	93.1	105	94.6	3	81	1.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	23	12	9	8	161
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	112.9	1	176.4	9	68	56.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	10.5	52	27.6	4	47	163.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	24	12.7	4	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	16.8	31	16.6	4	24	1.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	39.6	130	38.1	7	35	3.8
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.2	33	9.8	6	11	133.1

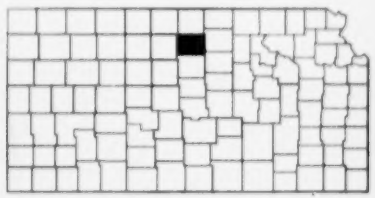
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,203	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.6%	88.4%
Black	0.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,502	$32,966
Unemployment	2.1%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Beloit



Mitchell County showed significant improvement in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two and the rate of child care availability. Other good news is the percent of students graduating from high school exceeded the state average. Of concern, the county has yet to implement a Head Start program for eligible children. A dramatic increase in the out-of-home placement rate is noted.

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MONTGOMERY

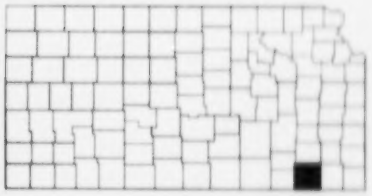
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	38,816	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	89.2%	88.4%
Black	6.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	2.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,063	$32,966
Unemployment	5.2%	3.8%

1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services

County Seat: Independence



Montgomery County celebrated a decline in the unemployment rate. The county did better than the state average in the percentage of births with prenatal care, the percentage of low-birth-weight babies, and the percentage of youth who used alcohol in the past 30 days. Dramatic improvement was seen in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two. With a 54.6 percent rate, however, the county remains at the bottom ten percent of the state. In addition, ways to encourage youth to complete their high school education should be explored. The high school graduation rate was 76 percent.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	13.5	62	14.5	10	10	7.5
Children in Poverty	.	2,413	24.0	10	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	30.4	2,035	31.6	9	25	3.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	21.2	1	14.0	6	26	34.2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.6	3	7.0	7	7	18.4
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.4	391	91.6	2	86	7.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	39.5	222	54.6	10	70	38.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.8	27	6.3	5	7	6.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	49.1	136	53.4	6	53	8.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	22.5	1,484	23.1	6	27	3.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	72.5	264	70.2	9	76	-3.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	24.2	98	23.0	8	18	5.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	74.9	376	76.4	10	81	2.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8	91	9	7	8	2.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	35.7	4	134.1	8	68	-276.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	58.8	875	87.2	10	47	-48.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	493	49.2	10	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	24.0	335	33.6	9	24	-40.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.2	256	28.3	2	35	17.3
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.8	95	10.5	6	11	-51.7

MORRIS

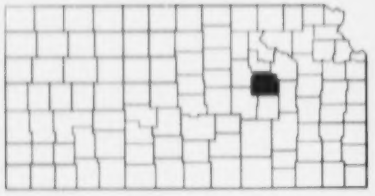
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.2	4	5.8	3	10	5.8
Children in Poverty	.	310	19.0	8	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.0	278	24.3	5	25	9.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	49.1	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.1	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.6	60	88.2	4	86	4.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	61.1	57	78.6	4	70	28.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.9	4	5.8	4	7	19.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.0	188	18.5	8	27	2.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	69.1	55	78.6	5	76	13.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	17.4	9	13.0	4	18	25.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	93.8	70	90.9	5	81	3.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8	3	2	3	8	77
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	51.6	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	63.4	87	54.1	8	47	14.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	51	31.7	9	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	20.0	26	16.5	4	24	17.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.5	104	37.7	6	35	19.5
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.9	34	12.4	8	11	152.6

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,198	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.6%	88.4%
Black	0.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,437	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.1%	3.8%

County Seat: Council Grove



Morris County celebrated a decrease in the percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree. The county also saw a decline in the percentage of all births to single teens. There was a greater percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training. While improvement can be seen in the decline of juvenile court filings, the percentage of youth who used alcohol in the past 30 days increased. Unfortunately, unemployment was up, and the county has yet to implement a Head Start program that would benefit eligible children.

MORTON

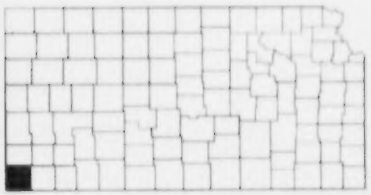
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,480	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	30.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	88.0%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.2%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	10.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,785	$32,966
Unemployment	2.1%	3.8%

(1992 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Elkhart



Morton County applauded a higher percentage of students graduating from high school. Increases in the percentage of births with early prenatal care and percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two indicated that a greater percentage of children are more likely to have a healthier childhood. Dramatic declines in the percentage of juvenile court filings and in the percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree were also good news. The high percentage of children approved for free school meals may reveal the need for a Head Start program.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.8	5	8.8	6	10	28.7
Children in Poverty	.	182	17.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	26.0	214	27.3	6	25	4.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	64.5	42	73.7	9	86	14.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	48.9	37	69.0	8	70	41.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.5	2	3.5	2	7	22.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	22.6	160	22.8	6	27	0.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	72.3	45	81.8	4	76	13.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	26.7	11	19.3	7	18	27.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	75.9	55	84.6	7	81	11.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	4	4	5	8	2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	151.5	1	347.2	10	68	129.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	5.2	17	15.7	2	47	202.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	8	7.4	3	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	11.8	21	19.1	5	24	62.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	51.1	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	15.0	.	.	.	11	

NEMAHA

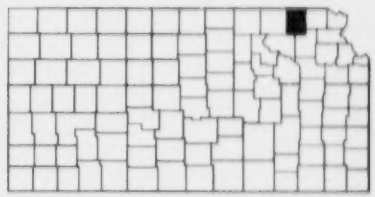
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	3.4	5	3.4	2	10	0.9
Children in Poverty	.	413	13.0	4	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	18.5	336	18.0	2	25	2.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	33.9	1	44.5	8	26	31.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.9	3	20.7	10	7	132.1
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	90.3	135	93.1	1	86	3.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	68.8	96	85.6	2	70	24.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.1	7	4.8	3	7	20.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	73.0	36	76.2	4	53	4.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.5	551	28.0	3	27	14.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.3	121	78.6	5	76	0.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	4.5	8	5.5	1	18	22.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.4	154	95.7	2	81	0.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2	0	0	2	8	100
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	58.4	1	136.2	8	68	133.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	23.5	40	13.2	1	47	43.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	39	12.9	4	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	7.1	19	6.4	2	24	9.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.8	199	31.2	3	35	10.6
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	2.2	10	1.6	1	11	27.6

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	10,446	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.2%	88.4%
Black	0.4%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,786	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.3%	3.8%

County Seat: Seneca



Nemaha County celebrated another year in the best ten percent of the state for percentage of births with prenatal care, percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree, and percentage of youth who ever used other drugs. Improvement can be seen in all indicators for Early Childhood Care & Education and Social Behavior & Social Control. While Nemaha County did slightly better than the state average in the percentage of high school students pursuing post-secondary education or training, the county may want to explore ways to further improve in this area.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

NEOSHO

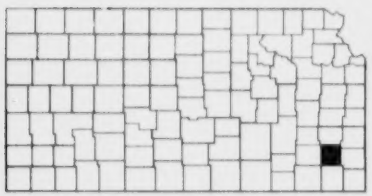
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	17,035	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.8%	88.4%
Black	1.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,613	$32,066
Unemployment	4.8%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Erie



Neosho County showed further improvement in the percentage of births with early prenatal care, the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two, the percentage of eligible children participating in Head Start, and the rate of child care availability. The decrease in percentage of juvenile court filings was also good news. Of serious concern were the increases in the percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree and in the percentage of children living in poverty. Ways to correct the downward trend in the percentage of students graduating from high school and graduates pursuing secondary education or training may need exploring.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.5	24	11.7	8	10	10.8
Children in Poverty	.	964	21.0	9	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.7	919	27.8	7	25	3.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	46.5	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.0	0	0.0	5	7	100.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.1	184	89.8	3	86	4.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	28.7	105	52.5	10	70	82.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.7	14	6.8	6	7	19.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	55.0	48	58.2	5	53	5.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	32.4	995	33.9	2	27	4.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.8	145	71.4	8	76	10.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	19.9	42	20.4	8	18	2.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.5	203	77.5	9	81	3.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9	47	10	8	8	12
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	116.8	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	49.5	315	69.3	9	47	40.0
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	209	46.0	10	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	26.4	102	22.4	6	24	15.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.7	123	35.9	6	35	3.4
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	5.3	31	9.1	5	11	71.7

NESS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.6	1	3.2	2	10	51.4
Children in Poverty	.	108	10.0	1	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	15.9	139	20.2	3	25	-27.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.1	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.7	23	74.2	9	86	-14.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	64.5	29	79.3	3	70	23.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.1	2	6.5	5	7	9.7
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	12.6	116	18.2	9	27	44.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.7	53	89.8	1	76	7.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.3	5	16.1	6	18	-12.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	94.7	59	96.7	1	81	2.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2	1	1	2	8	53
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	104.4	.	0.0	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	3	3.1	1	47	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	3	3.1	2	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	7.1	4	4.2	1	24	40.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	44.5	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.0	.	.	.	11	

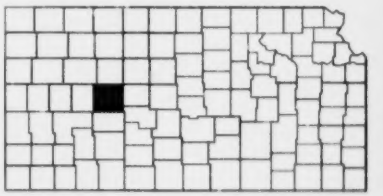
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,033	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.3%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.2%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,229	$32,966
Unemployment	2.5%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Ness City



Ness County advanced to the best ten percent of the state for the percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education. Notable improvements can also be seen with the increase in the child care availability rate, the increase in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two, and the decline in the rate of juvenile court filings. The percentage of students graduating from high school far exceeded the state average. Reasons for the dramatic decline in the percentage of births with early prenatal care should be explored.

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A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

NORTON

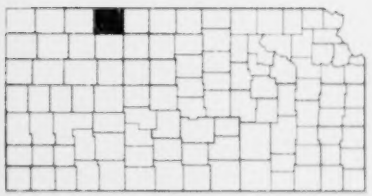
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,947	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.7%	88.4%
Black	2.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.4%	4.8%
Median Family Income	$28,972	$32,966
Unemployment	2.2%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Norton



Norton County had much to celebrate. Significant improvement was seen in the percentage of births with early prenatal care, of all births to single teens, of kindergartners fully immunized by age two, of youth who ever used other drugs, and of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training. The county is applauded for implementing a Head Start program this year. Of concern were the increase in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies and the increase in juvenile court filings.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.9	2	3.8	2	10	61.8
Children in Poverty	.	201	15.0	6	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.5	231	20.6	4	25	0.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	42.2	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.6	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.2	48	94.1	1	86	9.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	48.7	45	65.8	9	70	35.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	3.9	4	7.5	7	7	92.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	27	86.5	3	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	30.8	272	32.9	2	27	7.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.0	60	87.0	2	76	11.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.9	0	0.0	1	18	100.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.2	69	87.3	6	81	1.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	8	6	6	8	113
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	394.5	1	225.7	9	68	43.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	38.7	78	58.2	8	47	50.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	5	3.7	2	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	25.7	44	32.7	8	24	27.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.6	86	35.6	5	35	9.0
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	7.4	15	6.3	4	11	15.1

OSAGE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.8	21	10.4	7	10	-34.0
Children in Poverty		657	14.0	5	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	21.2	800	23.7	5	25	-11.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	17.6	1	28.8	7	26	-63.9
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.2	1	5.0	6	7	19.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	91.0	179	89.1	3	86	2.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	59.4	149	71.5	7	70	20.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.5	19	9.5	9	7	-46.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	29.5	20	29.6	8	53	0.3
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.1	882	28.3	3	27	0.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	66.6	133	61.6	10	76	-7.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.8	33	16.4	6	18	-52.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.0	216	92.3	4	81	7.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	34	7	6	8	-138
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	89.6	1	78.4	7	68	12.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	50.7	291	60.9	9	47	-20.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children		103	21.5	7	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	12.5	106	21.8	6	24	-74.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	28.9	273	33.1	4	35	-14.4
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	5.2	104	12.6	9	11	-140.7

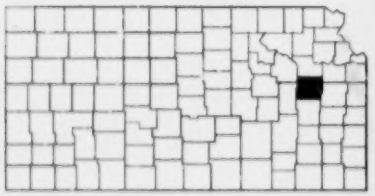
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	15,248	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.8%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,963	$32,966
Unemployment	6.8%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Lyndon



Osage County celebrated significant improvement in the percentage of kindergartners who are fully immunized by age two. The county did better than the state average in the percentage of births with early prenatal care and the percentage of students graduating from high school. Attention should be given to the dramatic increase in the percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree and the percentage of low-birth-weight babies. Also of concern, there were increases in all areas of social behavior and social control, and there was a noticeable decline in the percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training.

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OSBORNE

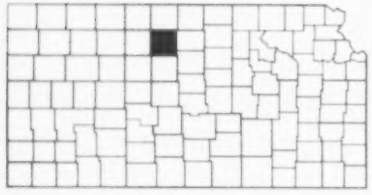
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,867	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.1%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$23,500	$32,966
Unemployment	2.5%	3.8%

(1992 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Osborne



Osborne County achieved significant improvement in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two. The county ranked in the best ten percent of the state for its efforts with the following: percentage of births with early prenatal care, percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training, and percentage of juvenile court filings. Osborne County may want to further consider ways to improve the rate for child care availability and to implement a Head Start program for eligible children.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.0	3	7.5	5	10	6.4
Children in Poverty	.	184	16.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.5	122	23.3	5	25	3.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	116.3	4	502.5	10	26	332.2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	93.0	38	95.0	1	86	2.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	48.1	26	81.5	3	70	69.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.7	3	7.5	7	7	31.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	.	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	25.2	168	24.1	6	27	4.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.6	28	90.3	1	76	6.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.3	6	15.0	5	18	21.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	92.0	31	91.2	4	81	0.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2	3	3	4	8	27
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	153.1	1	365.0	10	68	138.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	40.3	26	23.6	3	47	41.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	5	4.5	2	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	12.4	5	4.7	1	24	62.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	3.4	2	.	.	11	

OTTAWA

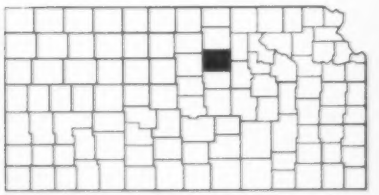
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.7	2	3.2	2	10	52.4
Children in Poverty	.	199	14.0	5	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	21.3	279	20.0	3	25	6.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	17.5	1	88.2	9	26	-403.3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.2	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	93.0	60	95.2	1	86	7.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	64.3	61	94.2	1	70	46.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.6	5	7.9	8	7	-7.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.9	232	23.1	6	27	-20.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.3	78	79.6	5	76	3.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	11.1	4	6.3	2	18	42.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.5	98	91.6	4	81	1.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6	23	15	10	8	-161
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	59.2	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	10.8	83	54.4	8	47	-107.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	37	24.2	8	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	14.3	44	28.9	8	24	-101.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,634	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.9%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,410	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.3%	3.8%

County Seat: Minneapolis



Ottawa County ranked in the best ten percent of the state for its high percentage of births with early prenatal care and high percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two. The significant decline in the percentage of all births to single teens was also good news. However, employment was up from the previous year. Ottawa County experienced a dramatic increase in the percentage of out-of home placements and in the percentage of juvenile court filings.

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PAWNEE

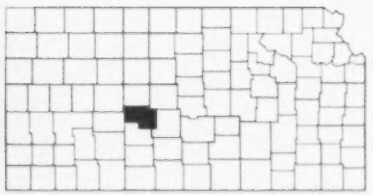
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,555	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	92.3%	88.4%
Black	3.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.7%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,759	$32,966
Unemployment	2.5%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Larned



Pawnee County showed considerable improvement in the percentage of students graduating from high school. Positive trends were also noted by the increases in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two and the percentage of eligible children participating in the Head Start program. The county ranked in the best ten percent for its child care availability rate. Dramatic increases in all areas of social behavior and social control raise concerns. Pawnee County experienced a high increase in the percent of out-of-home placements, placing the county in the worst ten percent of the state.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	13.2	5	7.6	5	10	42.7
Children in Poverty	.	246	13.0	4	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	23.9	335	26.3	6	25	10.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	41.5	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	22.9	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.5	56	87.5	5	86	2.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	44.8	57	77.8	4	70	73.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.6	5	7.6	7	7	14.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	83.3	18	89.2	3	53	7.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	36.5	435	38.3	1	27	4.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.8	65	75.6	7	76	2.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.9	10	15.2	5	18	4.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.0	86	92.5	3	81	15.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9	31	16	10	8	78
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	35.7	1	177.0	9	68	300.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	20.6	82	43.4	6	47	110.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	13	6.9	3	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	25.3	76	41.3	9	24	63.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	38.6	100	43.3	9	35	12.1
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.4	27	11.6	8	11	81.6

PHILLIPS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.4	3	5.5	3	10	0.5
Children in Poverty	.	193	12.0	2	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.7	269	23.0	5	25	1.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.7	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.4	48	87.3	5	86	0.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	52.3	58	75.0	5	70	43.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	2.3	2	3.6	2	7	59.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	20	98.0	2	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.8	345	35.4	2	27	27.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.8	72	82.8	4	76	5.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.1	7	12.7	4	18	5.2 5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.6	87	95.6	2	81	1.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5	6	4	5	8	23
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	53.1	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	33.2	42	27.2	4	47	18.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	4	2.6	1	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	13.8	22	14.6	3	24	5.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	25.4	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	2.3	5	.	.	11	

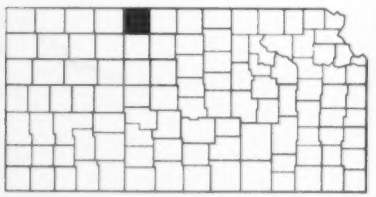
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,590	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.7%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,541	$32,966
Unemployment	2.7%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Phillipsburg



Phillips County showed significant improvement in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two. Twenty children had the opportunity to participate in the new Head Start program implemented this year. The county saw improvement in the child care availability rate. While the county's percentage of students graduating from high school is far better than the state average, a gradual decline is noted and may be worth investigating.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

POTTAWATOMIE

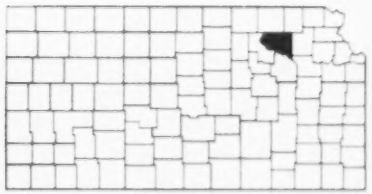
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	16,128	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	29.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.9%	88.4%
Black	0.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.5%	4.8%
Median Family Income	$29,932	$32,960
Unemployment	3.7%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Westmoreland



Pottawatomie County showed improvement in all indicators related to physical health and safety. A decline in the county's rate for reported cases of child abuse and neglect was noted. While the decline in juvenile court filings was good news, dramatic increases in the percentage of youth who have used alcohol in the past 30 days and in the percentage of youth who have ever used other drugs raised concerns. Also of concern, there was a significant increase in the percentage of all births to women with less than a high school degree. The county may want to assess if more slots are needed for child care.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.5	14	5.5	3	10	21.2
Children in Poverty	.	679	13.0	4	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	16.8	607	15.9	1	25	5.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	29.9	1	24.6	6	26	17.8
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.5	1	3.9	6	7	28.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.5	223	87.8	5	86	2.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	62.1	182	80.4	3	70	29.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.1	9	3.5	2	7	42.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	56.4	37	56.6	6	53	0.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.4	779	21.0	7	27	10.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	71.9	172	73.2	8	76	1.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	5.9	22	8.7	2	18	46.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	89.4	235	91.1	4	81	1.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2	17	3	4	8	50.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	78.4	.	0.0	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	37.6	133	24.0	3	47	36.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	69	12.4	4	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	12.0	62	11.0	2	24	8.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.7	158	42.0	9	35	24.7
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.8	43	11.5	7	11	54.1

PRATT

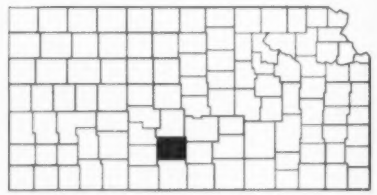
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.7	10	8.4	5	10	26.3
Children in Poverty	.	351	14.0	5	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	19.2	363	20.4	3	25	6.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	31.1	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.8	1	8.4	8	7	22.1
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.9	96	80.7	8	86	7.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	52.5	69	70.5	7	70	34.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.4	10	8.4	8	7	55.7
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	30	82.9	3	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.7	402	24.3	5	27	12.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.1	102	91.9	1	76	13.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.5	18	15.1	5	18	11.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	85.3	111	89.5	5	81	4.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5	7	3	4	8	49
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	81.0	.	0.0	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	22.5	141	53.7	8	47	58.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	84	32.0	9	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	19.9	131	50.0	10	24	150.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	25.2	177	36.9	6	35	46.1
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	7.7	43	8.9	5	11	15.0

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	9,702	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.8%	88.4%
Black	1.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,481	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.5%	3.8%

County Seat: Pratt



Pratt County was recognized in the best ten percent of the state for its high percentage of graduates pursuing further education or training after high school. The county celebrated its first year of offering a Head Start program for eligible children. Concerns are raised about the decline in births with early prenatal care and the significant increase in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies. For both indicators, the county did worse than the state average. Attention may also be needed in all areas of social behavior and social control.

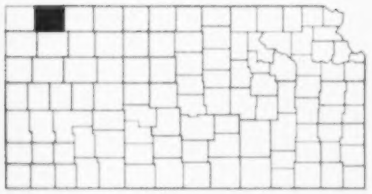
RAWLINS

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,404	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.7%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,818	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.0%	3.8%

County Seat: Atwood



Rawlins County ranked in the best ten percent of the state in the percentage of births with early prenatal care, the percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education, and in all areas of social behavior and social control. With 17 children participating in the newly implemented Head Start program, the county also ranked in the best ten percent. There were no teen violent deaths this year. The county may want to assess if more slots for child care are needed.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.4	3	10.0	7	10	56.7
Children in Poverty	.	118	13.0	4	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.3	159	28.2	7	25	0.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	58.2	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.1	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.7	28	93.3	1	86	11.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	56.5	20	71.4	7	70	26.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.0	2	6.7	6	7	34.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	17	130.8	1	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	15.7	90	15.2	9	27	2.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.1	58	90.6	1	76	11.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.7	5	16.7	6	18	55.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	94.0	64	98.5	1	81	4.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2	0	0	2	8	100
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	198.8	.	0.0	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	12	13.7	1	47	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	.	0.0	1	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	21.2	1	1.2	1	24	94.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.1	25	21.0	1	35	36.5
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	7.2	2	1.7	1	11	77.0

RENO

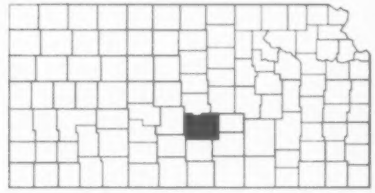
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 0 → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.3	116	14.2	9	10	37.7
Children in Poverty	.	3,134	19.0	8	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	26.5	2,773	26.0	6	25	2.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	28.9	6	49.4	8	26	71.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.2	5	6.1	7	7	33.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	80.1	612	75.3	9	86	6.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	64.2	482	70.0	7	70	9.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.5	65	8.0	8	7	23.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	43.2	167	58.6	5	53	35.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.7	2,687	24.6	5	27	0.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	72.8	417	64.1	10	76	12.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	21.0	190	23.3	8	18	11.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.1	651	79.7	9	81	0.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	10	259	15	10	8	50
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	80.8	5	102.5	8	68	27.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	40.7	967	57.5	8	47	41.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	277	16.5	5	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	27.9	447	26.6	7	24	4.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	23.6	557	27.7	2	35	17.6
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	5.0	193	9.6	6	11	93.5

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	62,389	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	92.4%	88.4%
Black	2.7%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.0%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$29,549	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.6%	3.8%

County Seat: Hutchinson



Reno County experienced a decline in the infant mortality rate, which was good news. Positive trends were also seen in the decline of juvenile court filings and the increase in kindergartners fully immunized by age two. A dramatic increase in the out-of-home placement rate was noted. The county may want to explore ways to increase the percentage of students graduating from high school and the percentage of graduates pursing post-secondary education or training. For both indicators, the county did worse than the state average. Also of concern, there was a significant increase in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies and the percentage of all births to single teens.

REPUBLIC

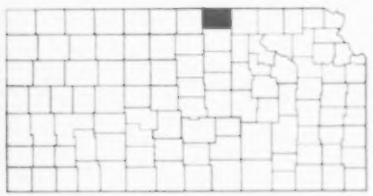
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,482	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.4%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,637	$32,066
Unemployment	2.6%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Belleville



Republic County showed remarkable improvement in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two and the percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree. Notable improvement was also seen with both indicators for early childhood care and education. This year, there was a rise in the unemployment rate and a greater percentage of children were approved for free school meals.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.1	3	6.3	4	10	11.5
Children in Poverty	.	232	16.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.6	300	27.3	7	25	10.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	36.7	1	96.8	10	26	164.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.0	42	87.5	5	86	0.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	44.2	36	74.1	6	70	67.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	2.6	0	0.0	1	7	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	68.3	17	72.9	4	53	6.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.3	305	33.6	2	27	23.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.8	62	86.1	3	76	2.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.4	4	8.3	2	18	45.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	91.3	72	91.1	4	81	0.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8	8	6	5	8	25
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	57.8	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	40.0	68	48.1	7	47	20.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	10	7.1	3	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	17.1	24	17.2	4	24	1.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.0	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.0	.	.	.	11	

RICE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.9	10	8.8	6	10	1.6
Children in Poverty	.	560	20.0	9	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.8	572	28.3	7	25	1.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	28.1	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	13.2	2	17.5	9	7	32.9
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	81.2	91	79.8	8	86	1.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	57.7	82	74.1	6	70	28.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.8	7	6.1	4	7	9.2
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	22.3	18	23.6	8	53	10.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	17.4	351	19.2	8	27	10.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.6	101	78.3	6	76	2.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.1	18	15.8	5	18	4.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.6	129	88.4	6	81	2.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8	64	23	10	8	189
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	67.4	3	467.3	10	68	593.9
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	59.8	174	63.0	9	47	5.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	35	12.7	4	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	19.2	68	24.9	7	24	29.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	26.0	82	31.3	3	35	20.6
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.3	28	10.6	6	11	146.5

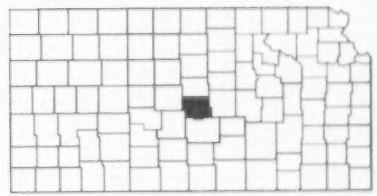
Percent Change Over Time: Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	10,610	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.3%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.6%	88.4%
Black	1.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,406	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.8%	3.8%

County Seat: Lyons



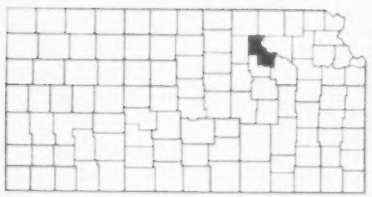
Rice County celebrated significant improvement in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two. Other notable improvements were recognized: a decline in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies, an increase in the child care availability rate, and an increase in the percentage of eligible children participating in the Head Start program. Rice County may want to explore ways to deter the upward trend for all social behavior and social control indicators. Also of concern was the increase in the percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	67,139	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	21.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	81.6%	88.4%
Black	10.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	3.5%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,511	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.1%	3.8%

County Seat: Manhattan



RILEY

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.1	32	3.7	2	10	10.0
Children in Poverty	.	2,418	16.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	19.5	1,435	20.3	3	25	4.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	25.6	0	0.0	6	26	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.2	1	1.2	5	7	77.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	81.2	728	84.4	7	86	3.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	64.5	400	78.7	4	70	22.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.9	28	3.2	2	7	44.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	39.8	150	45.8	7	53	15.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.8	2,260	22.4	6	27	13.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	87.8	410	83.3	4	76	5.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	7.5	59	6.8	2	18	9.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	84.4	492	90.9	5	81	7.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	64	3	4	8	15
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	19.7	.	0.0	6	68	100.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	29.0	645	41.1	6	47	41.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	327	20.8	7	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	9.5	210	13.7	3	24	43.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.3	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	10.4	.	.	.	11	

Riley County showed improvement in all areas of Physical Health & Safety and Early Childhood Care & Education. The increase in the percentage of students graduating from high school and the decline in the percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree were also good news. Of concern, Riley County experienced a 43.8-percent increase in juvenile court filings and a five-percent decline in the percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training.

ROOKS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.1	4	5.9	3	10	17.4
Children in Poverty	.	252	15.0	6	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.9	264	23.9	5	25	4.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	1	86.7	9	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.3	1	14.7	9	7	58.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	92.9	59	86.8	6	86	6.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.8	62	85.5	2	70	53.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.7	4	5.9	4	7	24.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.1	366	36.5	1	27	30.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.2	71	74.0	8	76	12.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	7.8	5	7.4	2	18	5.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.1	96	96.0	2	81	0.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	0	0	2	8	100
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	55.2	.	0.0	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	46.5	70	44.8	7	47	3.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	16	10.2	4	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	15.3	16	10.5	2	24	31.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	44.5	119	54.5	10	35	22.5
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	5.6	39	17.9	10	11	219.9

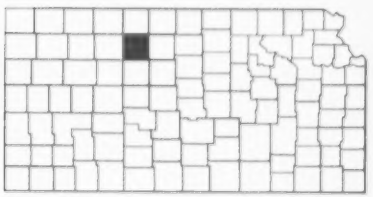
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,039	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.7%	88.4%
Black	0.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$24,601	$32,966
Unemployment	2.5%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Stockton



Rooks County performed in the top ten percent of the state for its child availability rate. The county also celebrated a significant increase in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two, the decline in low-birth-weight babies, and the decline in juvenile court filings. An increase in the percentage of children approved for free school meals may indicate a greater need for a local Head Start program. With the dramatic increase in the percentage of youth who have used alcohol in the past 30 days and the percentage of youth who have ever used other drugs, the county ranked in the worst ten percent of the state for both indicators.

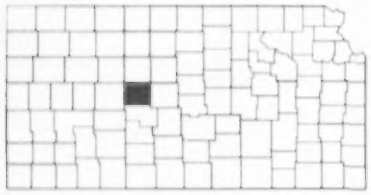
RUSH

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,842	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.8%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,489	$32,966
Unemployment	3.5%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: La Crosse



Rush County was among the top performers in the state for the following indicators: percentage of births with early prenatal care, child care availability rate, percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree, and percentage of students graduating from high school. The county also showed significant improvement in the percentage of eligible children participating in the Head Start program. This year there were no teen violent deaths. Of concern were the notable decline in the percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training and the dramatic increase in juvenile court filings.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.7	2	6.7	4	10	40.8
Children in Poverty	.	126	15.0	6	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	26.1	201	29.3	8	25	12.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	30.3	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.9	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.8	27	93.1	1	86	4.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	52.2	31	75.0	5	70	43.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.3	2	6.7	6	7	25.2
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	34.0	10	67.7	4	53	98.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	29.5	220	43.3	1	27	46.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	87.2	35	74.5	7	76	14.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.4	1	3.3	1	18	73.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	98.1	47	97.9	1	81	0.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1	0	0	2	8	100
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	209.9	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	41.0	21	25.9	3	47	36.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	7	8.6	3	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	8.5	21	26.7	7	24	213.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	43.9	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.5	.	.	.	11	

RUSSELL

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.6	3	4.5	3	10	30.9
Children in Poverty	.	293	16.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.5	384	27.7	7	25	0.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	14.3	1	74.6	9	26	420.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.9	60	90.9	2	86	3.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	54.9	48	66.2	9	70	20.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.8	1	1.5	2	7	82.7
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	45.2	15	47.4	7	53	5.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	29.3	317	26.8	4	27	8.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.1	76	86.4	2	76	13.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.2	7	10.6	3	18	34.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	84.9	88	80.0	9	81	5.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6	17	9	7	8	60
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	135.2	1	208.3	9	68	54.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	37.7	54	29.8	4	47	21.0
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	3	1.7	1	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	24.6	40	22.2	6	24	9.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.8	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.8	.	.	.	11	

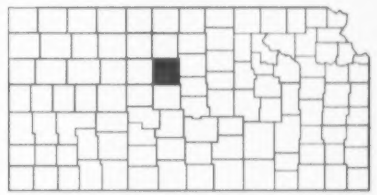
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,835	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.4%	88.4%
Black	0.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,508	$32,966
Unemployment	3.5%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Russell



Russell County celebrated a significant increase in the percentage of high school graduates pursuing secondary education or trainin.g. Other good news were the increase in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two, the decline in the percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree, and the decline in juvenile court filings. The county may want to explore ways to encourage more students to complete high school. Also, with the decline in the child care availability rate, the county may want to assess if there is an adequate number of slots.

SALINE

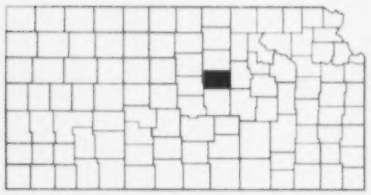
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	49,301	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.3%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	93.0%	88.4%
Black	3.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$31,030	$32,966
Unemployment	3.6%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Salina



Saline County was recognized as one of the best performers in the state for its child care availability rate. The county also celebrated an increase in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two, an increase in the percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education, and a decline in juvenile court filings. Dramatic increases in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies and in the percentage of all births to women with less than a high school degree raised concerns. Also noted, a greater percentage of youth reported they had used drugs other than alcohol.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.9	82	11.8	8	10	-18.9
Children in Poverty	.	2,304	17.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.4	2,349	27.0	6	25	-10.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	16.9	4	38.6	7	26	-127.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.3	8	11.5	8	7	-38.5
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.7	633	91.1	2	86	1.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	66.4	457	73.9	6	70	11.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.1	56	8.1	8	7	-14.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	43.5	172	64.8	5	53	49.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	35.4	3,404	36.4	1	27	2.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	72.4	393	79.4	5	76	9.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.8	130	18.7	7	18	-11.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	77.9	495	79.1	9	81	1.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7	89	6	6	8	18
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	74.1	4	103.8	8	68	-40.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	32.8	896	63.1	9	47	-92.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	297	20.9	7	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	48.4	587	41.5	9	24	14.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.2	578	34.0	5	35	0.6
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	11.0	260	15.3	10	11	-39.7

SCOTT

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.6	6	8.8	6	10	3.1
Children in Poverty	.	145	9.0	1	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.5	234	19.6	3	25	12.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	17.4	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	17.7	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	79.5	42	61.8	10	86	22.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	62.2	58	73.0	6	70	17.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.7	9	13.2	10	7	72.6
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	253.0	12	291.7	1	53	15.3
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	33.0	362	38.5	1	27	16.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.6	57	89.1	2	76	5.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	22.3	21	30.9	9	18	38.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.0	64	85.3	7	81	0.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9	9	6	6	8	36
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	154.8		0.0		68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	9.2	90	60.1	9	47	551.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	25	16.7	6	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	20.1	32	21.6	6	24	7.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.2	116	38.7	7	35	16.3
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	5.6	16	5.3	3	11	3.9

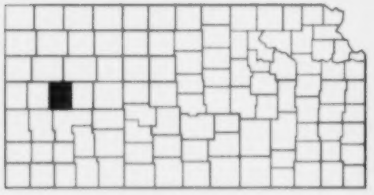
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,289	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.8%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$29,267	$32,966
Unemployment	2.1%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Scott City



Scott County saw a decline in the unemployment rate, which was good news. For both indicators in the area of early childhood care and education, the county ranked in the best ten percent of the state. Scott County showed improvement in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two. This year, 30 percent of all births were to mothers with less than a high school degree, which is a cause for concern. Also, the county ranked in the worst ten percent of the state for its percentage of births with early prenatal care and percentage of low-birth-weight babies.

SEDGWICK

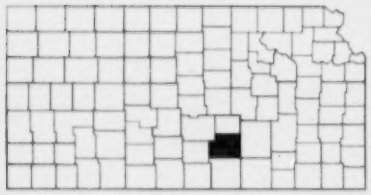
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	403,662	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	83.7%	88.4%
Black	8.8%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.0%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$36,194	$32,966
Unemployment	3.4%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Wichita



Sedgwick County saw a decline in the unemployment rate. Also worth celebrating, the county experienced an increase in the percentage of kindergartners immunized by age two and a decline in the teen violent death rate. Increases in the percentage of students graduating from high school and percentage of graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training were encouraging. A significant increase in the out-of-home placement rate was noted. The county may want to investigate the causes for the dramatic decline in the percentage of eligible children participating in the Head Start program.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.8	796	11.0	8	10	2.1
Children in Poverty	.	22,936	19.0	8	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.5	21,354	28.8	7	25	4.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	30.5	28	30.0	7	26	1.7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.2	71	9.8	8	7	6.6
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.6	6,200	86.5	6	86	1.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	56.4	3,624	61.7	9	70	9.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.1	524	7.3	7	7	2.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	34.9	714	29.3	8	53	16.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.3	21,319	24.4	5	27	0.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	73.1	2,586	74.6	7	76	2.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	20.4	1,480	20.6	8	18	0.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	68.3	3,466	69.7	10	81	2.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9	1,616	12	9	8	33
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	90.6	23	70.8	7	68	22.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	40.8	7,441	58.6	9	47	43.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	2,201	17.3	6	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	12.8	1,754	13.6	3	24	6.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.8	1,428	36.0	6	35	3.4
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	7.1	450	11.3	7	11	60.8

SEWARD

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	13.0	46	11.0	8	10	15.9
Children in Poverty	.	1,549	24.0	10	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	41.9	2,233	44.5	10	25	6.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	24.2	.	0.0	6	26	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.0	3*	7.1	7	7	2.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	50.5	239	58.0	10	86	14.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	38.2	230	52.9	10	70	38.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.9	25	6.0	4	7	1.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	33.9	70	33.2	7	53	2.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.0	818	17.0	9	27	5.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	73.4	184	73.9	8	76	0.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	44.3	209	50.0	10	18	12.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	76.0	249	77.3	10	81	1.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8	25	3	5	8	50
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	93.7	3	178.7	9	68	162.5
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	40.1	315	46.4	7	47	15.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	293	43.2	10	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	38.4	375	54.6	10	24	42.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.9	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	14.5	.	.	.	11	

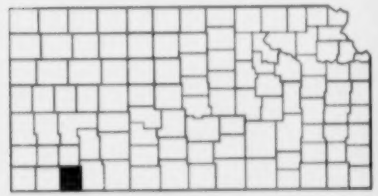
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	18,743	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	31.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	71.6%	88.4%
Black	5.8%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	19.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$29,810	$32,966
Unemployment	3.1%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Liberal



Seward County saw improvements in the percentage of births with early prenatal care and the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two. There were 9o childhood deaths. While there was a decrease in the percentage of all births to single teens, there was an increase in the percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree. Though the county experienced a decline in the unemployment rate, there was a 6.3-percent increase in the percentage of children approved for free school meals, which may indicate economic conditions were worsening. This year, slightly more than 44 percent of all children were approved for free school meals.

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SHAWNEE

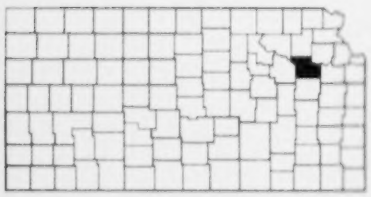
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	160,976	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	85.3%	88.4%
Black	8.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.0%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.7%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$35,987	$32,966
Unemployment	4.9%	3.8%

1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services

County Seat: Topeka



Shawnee County was ranked in the best ten percent of the state for its rate in child care availability. The county celebrated increases in the percentage of eligible children participating in the Head Start program and in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by the age of two. Declines in the teen violent death rate, juvenile court filings rate, and the percentage of low-birth-weight babies were also good news. Significant increases in the infant mortality rate and childhood death rate, as well as the dramatic decline in the percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training, were troubling.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	12.5	296	12.5	9	10	
Children in Poverty	.	8,081	19.0	8	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.6	7,817	29.5	8	25	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	26.6	12	37.2	7	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.1	23	9.7	8	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.8	2,115	89.5	3	86	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	68.0	1,381	75.1	5	70	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.0	168	7.1	7	7	
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	61.7	506	78.4	3	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	35.9	10,504	35.9	1	27	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	71.6	855	56.7	10	76	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	18.4	419	17.7	6	18	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	73.5	1,507	76.3	10	81	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	12	510	11	9	8	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	91.8	5	40.4	7	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	69.1	3,033	67.9	9	47	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	1,140	25.5	8	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	23.9	909	20.3	5	24	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.0	570	31.7	3	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	7.0	217	12.1	8	11	

SHERIDAN

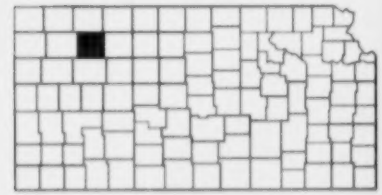
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.4	0	0.0	1	10	
Children in Poverty	.	114	14.0	5	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	15.4	78	16.5	2	25	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.4	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.0	20	87.0	6	86	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	72.0	13	87.5	1	70	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.4	-	0.0	1	7	
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	82.6	6	32.3	8	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.9	115	22.5	6	27	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	88.6	40	93.0	1	76	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	6.8	1	4.3	1	18	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	100.0	43	97.7	1	81	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1	0	0	2	8	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	0.0	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	46.0	5	6.3	1	47	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	.	0.0	1	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	0.7	.	0.0	1	24	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,043	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.9%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.0%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,135	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.0%	3.8%

County Seat: Hoxie



Sheridan County ranked in the best ten percent of the state for all indicators in the area of educational achievement. The county was also recognized as one of the best performers in the state for the following: percentage of births to single teens, percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two, percentage of low-birth-weight babies, reported cases of child abuse and neglect, and juvenile court filings rate. An increase in the percentage of children approved for free school meals may indicate a worsening of economic conditions.

SHERMAN

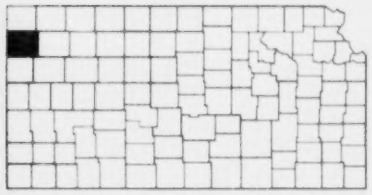
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,926	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	92.6%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,770	$32,966
Unemployment	2.2%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Goodland



Sherman County celebrated its rank in the best ten percent of the state for the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two. Improvements were seen with all indicators in the areas of Educational Achievement and Early Childhood Care & Education. The decline in the percentage of all births to single teens and the rise in percentage of births with early prenatal care were also good news. Of concern, there were percentage increases for all indicators related to Social Behavior & Control.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	15.0	12	12.9	9	10	14.3
Children in Poverty	.	378	20.0	9	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.6	330	27.0	6	25	5.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	4.9	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	82.0	85	91.4	2	86	11.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.2	52	89.1	1	70	61.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.4	8	8.6	9	7	-34.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	62.2	34	76.4	4	53	22.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.0	306	25.5	4	27	10.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.4	63	82.9	4	76	8.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	21.3	16	17.2	6	18	-19.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	85.5	76	89.4	5	81	4.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7	4	2	3	8	71
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	156.4	1	184.2	9	68	-18.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	29.4	82	43.9	6	47	-49.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	6	3.2	2	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	32.1	74	40.3	9	24	-25.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	29.1	90	31.1	3	35	-6.8
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.9	22	7.6	5	11	-10.2

SMITH

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	1.3	1	2.9	1	10	116.2
Children in Poverty	.	172	16.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.5	211	24.8	5	25	1.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	48.0	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	13.2	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.2	31	88.6	4	86	1.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	60.5	41	85.0	2	70	40.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.3	3	8.6	8	7	62.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	80.5	18	85.9	3	53	6.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	25.8	252	38.5	1	27	49.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	88.7	57	91.9	1	76	3.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.5	6	17.1	6	18	37.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	97.1	62	96.9	1	81	0.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6	3	3	4	8	57
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	146.4	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	39.4	32	29.8	4	47	24.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	9	8.4	3	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	13.2	21	20.1	5	24	52.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	24.5	79	40.3	8	35	64.3
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	3.0	6	3.1	2	11	3.2

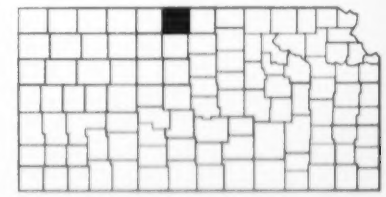
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,078	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.6%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$22,261	$32,966
Unemployment	2.8%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Smith Center



Smith County ranked in the best ten percent of the state for the percentage of all births to single teens, the percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training, and the rate of child care availability. The county also celebrated a significant increase in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two. Of concern was the increase in the percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree. With dramatic increases in the juvenile court filings rate and the percentage of youth who used alcohol in the past 30 days, attention may be warranted in the area of social behavior and social control.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

STAFFORD

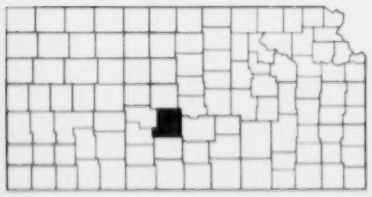
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,365	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.1%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,000	$32,966
Unemployment	2.6%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: St. John



Stafford County showed significant improvement with all indicators related to educational achievement. The increase in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two and the decrease in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies were good news. Thirty eligible children participated in the newly implemented Head Start program. The county may want to assess if there is adequate child care available. There was a notable increase in juvenile court filings.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.4	8	14.5	10	10	55.2
Children in Poverty	.	241	17.0	7	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.4	335	29.3	8	25	3.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	11.7	2	36.4	10	7	210.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	80.4	41	75.9	9	86	5.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.0	39	68.0	8	70	23.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.8	4	7.3	7	7	6.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	30	111.8	2	53	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.7	150	16.7	9	27	19.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.2	69	86.3	3	76	5.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	23.0	11	20.0	8	18	13.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	83.8	80	94.1	3	81	12.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9	1	1	2	8	92
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	66.0	.	0.0	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	17.8	111	82.1	10	47	366.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	63	46.6	10	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	16.2	47	35.1	9	24	116.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	22.9	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	5.2	.	.	.	11	

STANTON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.4	7	15.2	10	10	104.9
Children in Poverty	.	113	15.0	6	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	31.6	174	32.0	9	25	1.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	34.3	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.9	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.1	34	75.6	9	86	3.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	72.5	29	68.0	8	70	6.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.0	.	0.0	1	7	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	54.8	10	53.7	6	53	2.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.5	103	18.4	8	27	5.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	86.1	25	78.1	6	76	9.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	30.3	16	34.8	10	18	14.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	100.0	32	91.4	4	81	8.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	2	2	3	8	33
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	0.0	1	574.7	10	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	14	17.8	2	47	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	28	35.7	9	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	29.4	20	25.1	7	24	14.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

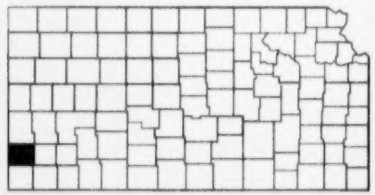
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,333	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	32.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	82.1%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	16.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,993	$32,966
Unemployment	2.7%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Johnson City



Stanton County experienced a decline in juvenile court filings, which indicated improvement. This year, there were no low-birth-weight babies, which was also good news. The county may want to explore ways to increase the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two. Also of concern were the negative trends for all indicators related to Educational Achievement and Early Childhood Care & Education.

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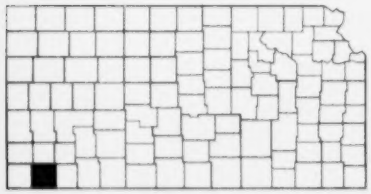
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,048	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	30.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	87.6%	88.4%
Black	0.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	10.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,462	$32,966
Unemployment	2.5%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Hugoton



Stevens County celebrated a significant decline in the unemployment rate. The county saw improvement in the percentage of high school students pursuing post-secondary education or training and in the percentage of births with early prenatal care. A substantial increase in the out-of-home placement rate was noted. While Stevens County experienced an increase in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two, the county ranked in the worst ten percent of the state for this indicator. Also of concern, 32 percent of all births were to mothers with less than a high school degree.

STEVENS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.5	10	10.3	7	10	10.4
Children in Poverty	.	224	13.0	4	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	23.8	312	26.8	6	25	12.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	15.7	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.0	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	66.1	69	72.6	9	86	9.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	39.2	39	50.0	10	70	27.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.5	6	6.2	5	7	12.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	32.3	10	32.7	7	53	1.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	15.6	175	15.1	10	27	3.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.5	64	88.9	2	76	9.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	29.5	31	32.0	9	18	8.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.6	72	81.8	8	81	9.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	25	14	9	8	412
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	106.6	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.8	32	18.4	2	47	109.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	25	14.4	5	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	18.8	35	19.9	5	24	6.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

SUMNER

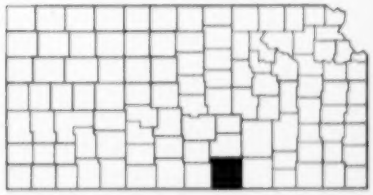
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.0	33	10.1	7	10	8.4
Children in Poverty	.	1,046	13.0	4	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.1	1,063	22.3	4	25	0.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	50.2	1	16.9	6	26	66.3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.3	2	6.1	7	7	14.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.8	289	88.1	4	86	5.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	56.4	199	70.0	7	70	24.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.7	17	5.2	3	7	22.7
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	103.5	75	111.2	2	53	7.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.8	1,008	19.1	8	27	3.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	67.6	216	69.9	9	76	3.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.2	45	13.8	4	18	14.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	91.3	309	91.4	4	81	0.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	12	104	12	9	8	4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	94.1	0	0.0	6	68	100.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	45.2	360	44.5	6	47	1.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	119	14.7	5	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	18.8	134	16.5	4	24	12.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.0	256	35.6	6	35	1.0
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	6.5	88	12.3	8	11	89.3

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	25,841	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	29.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	94.6%	88.4%
Black	0.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$32,772	$32,966
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.1%	3.8%

County Seat: Wellington



Sumner County ranked in the best 20 percent of the state for its rate of Head Start participation of eligible children. Increases in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two and the percentage of births with early prenatal care, as well as declines in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies and the percentage of all births to single teens, were also good news. This year, there were no teen violent deaths. While there was a decline in juvenile court filings, there was a significant increase in the percentage of youth who reported using drugs other than alcohol. The county may want to assess if more child care slots are needed.

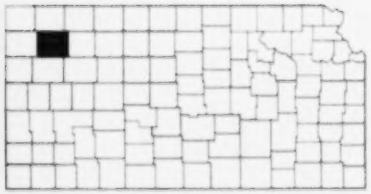
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	8,258	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.3%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.8%	88.4%
Black	0.4%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,470	$32,960
Unemployment	2.7%	3.8%

1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services

County Seat: Colby



Thomas County showed improvement in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two and in the percentage of students graduating from high school. The decline in juvenile court filings and the increase in Head Start participation were also good news. Of concern were the increases in the percentage of births to single teens, the percentage of low-birth-weight babies, and the out-of-home placement rate.

THOMAS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.2	12	10.6	7	10	28.8
Children in Poverty	.	362	15.0	6	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	19.7	319	20.4	3	25	3.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	32.5	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.0	1	8.8	8	7	26.1
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.9	102	90.3	2	86	2.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.1	73	74.1	6	70	13.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.3	8	7.1	7	7	12.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	49.0	33	67.3	4	53	37.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	34.6	522	34.0	2	27	1.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	86.3	92	85.2	3	76	1.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.5	14	12.4	4	18	18.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	85.2	108	88.5	6	81	4.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	23	9	7	8	131
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	26.3	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	40.2	74	30.1	4	47	25.0
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	21	8.5	3	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	17.5	39	16.1	3	24	8.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	29.7	99	34.4	5	35	15.9
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	2.8	17	5.9	4	11	112

TREGO

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.4	1	3.0	1	10	64.1
Children in Poverty	.	105	11.0	2	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.7	112	17.2	2	25	16.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	27.6	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	13.0	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	96.8	30	90.9	2	86	6.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	57.0	27	92.3	1	70	61.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.8	-	0.0	1	7	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	69.5	6	95.0	2	53	36.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.5	122	21.3	7	27	15.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.3	40	80.0	5	76	2.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	8.4	4	12.1	4	18	43.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.4	50	94.3	3	81	2.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6	0	0	2	8	100.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	0.0	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	21.9	4	4.5	1	47	79.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	.	0.0	1	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	35.9	36	41.7	10	24	16.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.6	63	37.7	7	35	6.0
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	10.9	5	3.0	2	11	72.7

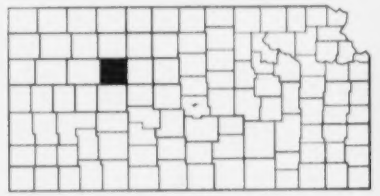
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,694	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.1%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.5%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,851	$32,966
Unemployment	2.8%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Wakeeney



Trego County ranked in the best ten percent of the state for the following indicators: percentage of all births to single teens, percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two, percentage of low-birth-weight babies, and the rate for child abuse and neglect reports. While the county did better than the state average in its percentage of students graduating from high school and its percentage of graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training, a slight downward trend was evident when compared to the base rate.

WABAUNSEE

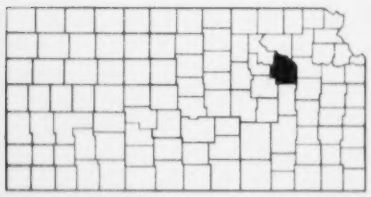
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,603	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.2%	88.4%
Black	0.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$31,802	$32,966
Unemployment	4.7%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Alma



Wabaunsee County ranked in the best ten percent of the state for its percentage of births with early prenatal care and its percentage of children approved for free school meals. The decline in the percentage of all births to single teens and the increase in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two were also good news. A dramatic increase in the percentage of out-of-home placements was noted. Also of concern, negative trends were seen for all indicators in the area of educational achievement, as well as in the area of social behavior and social control.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.3	4	5.7	3	10	8.8
Children in Poverty	.	218	12.0	2	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	16.5	188	15.4	1	25	7.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	1	72.9	9	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.2	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.4	66	94.3	1	86	9.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	61.6	56	79.3	3	70	28.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.7	5	7.1	7	7	-52.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	82.9	15	67.6	4	53	-18.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.3	219	17.4	9	27	-4.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.0	72	75.8	6	76	-2.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	8.9	5	7.1	2	18	19.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	92.3	95	95.0	3	81	2.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	27	14	9	8	-344
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	43.6	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	51.8	54	28.7	4	47	44.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	22	11.7	4	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	8.1	25	13.2	3	24	-62.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	38.1	63	48.8	10	35	-28.2
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	3.8	11	8.5	5	11	-123.8

WALLACE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.3	1	3.8	2	10	27.6
Children in Poverty	.	69	13.0	4	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	23.4	113	25.4	5	25	8.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	77.0	21	80.8	8	86	4.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	79.2	20	90.9	1	70	14.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.4	2	7.7	8	7	73.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	103.4	17	105.6	2	53	2.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	16.1	85	23.6	6	27	46.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.0	23	95.8	1	76	12.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	11.7	5	19.2	7	18	64.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.6	24	96.0	2	81	0.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3	5	9	7	8	147
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	0.0	2	1,197.6	10	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	20	36.4	5	47	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	.	0.0	1	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	9.8	0	0.0	1	24	100.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	11	

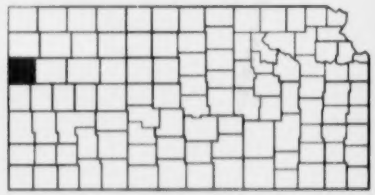
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	1,821	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	29.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	94.9%	88.4%
Black	0.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$23,950	$32,966
Unemployment	2.7%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Sharon Springs



Wallace County performed in the best ten percent of the state for the following: percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two, percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training, and juvenile court filings rate. The county can also boast improvements with both indicators related to early childhood care and education, as well as an improvement in the percentage of births with early prenatal care. An increase in the percentage of children approved for free school meals may indicate economic conditions are worsening.

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WASHINGTON

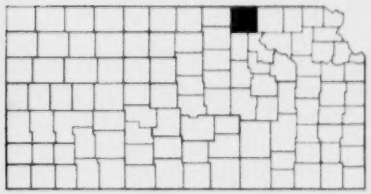
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,073	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.5%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$24,134	$32,960
Unemployment	3.4%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Washington



Washington County ranked in the best ten percent of the state for its low percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree. Significant increases in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two and in the percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training were good news. A decline in the unemployment rate and in the percentage of children approved for free school meals may indicate the county's economic condition is improving. Of concern were the dramatic increases in juvenile court filings and in the percentage of youth who used alcohol in the past 30 days.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.3	4	5.6	3	10	6.7
Children in Poverty	.	252	15.0	6	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.9	295	22.4	4	25	9.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	1	84.0	9	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.6	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.8	63	88.7	4	86	1.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	61.6	74	77.0	4	70	25.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.4	3	4.2	3	7	33.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	77.6	15	85.0	3	53	9.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	37.3	364	35.8	2	27	4.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.5	101	89.4	2	76	9.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	6.4	4	5.6	1	18	12.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.0	113	93.4	3	81	2.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1	3	2	3	8	58
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	45.7	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	12.5	37	22.1	3	47	76.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	.	0.0	1	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	9.2	33	20.0	5	24	118.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.5	59	53.6	10	35	65.1
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	2.1	3	2.7	2	11	27.3

WICHITA

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.3	4	9.5	6	10	51.6
Children in Poverty	.	122	14.0	5	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.1	134	27.5	7	25	13.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	87.2	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.2	1	23.8	10	7	354.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.9	29	69.0	10	86	12.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	56.9	31	74.2	5	70	30.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.9	5	11.9	10	7	51.6
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	59.8	6	63.2	5	53	5.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	14.6	112	18.6	8	27	27.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.4	33	89.2	2	76	13.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	22.0	17	40.5	10	18	84.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	94.7	37	80.4	8	81	15.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6	23	25	10	8	324
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	203.3	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.8	10	11.2	1	47	26.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	8	8.9	3	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	15.0	15	16.7	4	24	11.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	47.2	.	.	.	35	
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	12.0	.	.	.	11	

Percent Change Over Time scale: 100 80 60 40 20 0 20 40 60 80 100

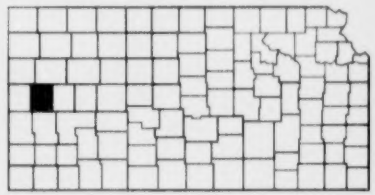
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,758	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	31.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	87.5%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	11.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,288	$32,966
Unemployment	3.9%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Leoti



Wichita County experienced improvement in the percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training. Increases in the percentage of eligible children participating in the Head Start program and the rate of child care availability were also good news. The dramatic decline in the percentage of students graduating from high school raised concerns. Wichita County ranked in the worst ten percent of the state for its high percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree and its high rate of out-of-home placements.

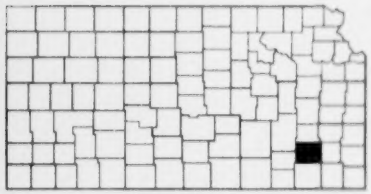
A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	10,259	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.3%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.7%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$23,635	$32,986
Unemployment (1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.1%	3.8%

County Seat: Fredonia



Wilson County saw a decline in the unemployment rate, which was good news. Percentage increases in the following indicators were also good news: kindergartners fully immunized by age two, eligible children participating in the Head Start program, child care availability rate, and high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training. The county may want to explore ways to encourage more students to complete high school. Wilson County ranked in the worst ten percent of the state for its high percentage of births to single teens.

WILSON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.6	18	15.5	10	10	33.9
Children in Poverty	.	572	21.0	9	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	31.1	659	30.9	9	25	0.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	39.3	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	15.6	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	82.3	96	82.8	7	86	0.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	41.2	83	67.9	8	70	64.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.9	10	8.6	9	7	46.6
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	62.7	40	66.9	5	53	6.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.8	370	21.6	7	27	4.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	70.6	98	74.2	7	76	5.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	20.2	29	25.0	9	18	23.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	83.4	132	78.6	9	81	5.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8	8	3	4	8	64
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	253.2	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	72.6	223	81.1	10	47	11.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	117	42.5	10	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	24.3	69	25.2	7	24	4.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.5	42	35.4	5	35	5.7
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	4.8	7	5.9	4	11	22

WOODSON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.3	3	10.3	7	10	24.9
Children in Poverty	.	187	19.0	8	17	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	29.6	184	27.8	7	25	6.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	.	.	.	26	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	.	.	.	7	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	81.1	26	89.7	3	86	10.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	45.2	20	54.2	10	70	20.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.9	3	10.3	9	7	74.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	49.7	10	53.1	6	53	6.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	7.8	76	12.1	10	27	55.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.8	38	71.7	8	76	7.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.6	3	10.3	3	18	24.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.2	53	91.4	4	81	4.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4	10	10	8	8	173
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	80.8	.	.	.	68	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	30.1	47	48.0	7	47	59.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	19	19.4	7	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	21.4	16	16.5	4	24	22.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	37.6	92	46.2	9	35	31.9
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	3.4	9	4.5	3	11	34.2

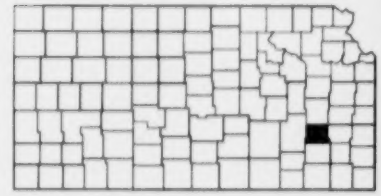
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,116	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.2%	88.4%
Black	0.4%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$24,185	$32,966
Unemployment	5.5%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Yates Center



Woodson County experienced improvements in the percentage of students graduating from high school, in the percentage of births with early prenatal care, and in the percentage of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree. The decline in juvenile court filings and increase in Head Start participation were also good news. While there were significant improvements in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two and in the child care availability rate, the county did worse than the state average in both indicators. Woodson County may want to explore ways to encourage further improvement.

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WYANDOTTE

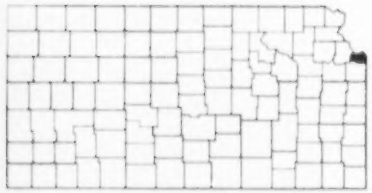
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	161,993	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	64.2%	88.4%
Black	27.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,672	$32,966
Unemployment	6.9%	3.8%

(1997 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Kansas City



Wyandotte County showed improvement in both areas related to early childhood care and education. Declines in the childhood death rate and in the infant mortality rate were also good news. A dramatic decline in the out-of-home placement rate was noted. While the county ranked in the worst ten percent of the state for its low percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age two, significant improvement could be seen. Wyandotte County ranked in the worst ten percent of the state for all indicators related to economic well-being, which raised concerns.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	18.7	527	18.7	10	10	0.5
Children in Poverty	.	14,491	32.0	10	17	5.5
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	45.3	13,645	47.8	10	25	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	38.3	9	27.4	7	26	28.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	11.4	25	8.9	8	7	21.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.9	2,170	77.8	8	86	1.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	35.2	994	49.1	10	70	39.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.7	288	10.2	9	7	18.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	55.6	854	64.5	5	53	15.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.9	7,135	23.7	6	27	18.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	67.7	939	73.1	8	76	8.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	29.2	820	29.4	9	18	0.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	71.2	1,285	68.4	10	81	4.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	19	435	9	7	8	51
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	140.5	24	194.8	9	68	39.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	80.2	3,155	69.7	10	47	13.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	1,166	25.7	8	19	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings	30.1	1,862	41.2	9	24	36.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.0	504	40.0	8	35	14.4
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	10.4	313	24.9	10	11	139.3

DATA NOTES AND SOURCES

ECONOMIC WELL BEING

Births to Single Teens is the percentage of live births that occur to unmarried women under the age of 20. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment provides data by calendar year.

Children in Poverty is an estimate of the percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The estimates are based on a sample of families surveyed each March in the Current Population Survey. Currently available data report family income for 1993. In calendar year 1993, the poverty threshold for a typical family of four persons was $14,763.

Children Approved for Free School Meals is the percentage of children enrolled in school in an academic year who have been approved for free school meals. Data are from the Kansas State Board of Education.

Children Receiving Economic Assistance is the number of children receiving any form of cash assistance (adoption subsidy, TANF, foster care, general assistance or refugee assistance), medical assistance (child in state institution, extended medical, pregnant women and children, medically needy, disabled medically needy families, SSI disabled, special pregnant women and children or work transition) or food stamps per 100 children under the age of 18. Each child receiving one or more forms of assistance is counted only once. The count is obtained from a single month (June 1998) and is therefore not indicative of the total number of children receiving assistance during the entire year. Data are from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services.

PHYSICAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Childhood Death, Ages 1-14 (per 100,000 children) is the number of deaths from all causes per 100,000 children ages one through 14. Data regarding childhood deaths by calendar year are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Population data are obtained from estimates made by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live births) is the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births in the last calendar year. The data were provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Births with Early Prenatal Care is the percentage of births in the last calendar year that are to women who started prenatal care in the first three months of their pregnancy as indicated on the birth certificate. Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2 is the percentage of children in kindergarten who had received all recommended immunizations by age two. It is based on a retrospective survey of immunization certificates done each fall at the time of enrollment in kindergarten. Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Low-Birth-Weight Babies is the percentage of live births in a calendar year that are recorded as low-birth-weight. Babies of low-birth-weight are those who weigh under 2,500 (5.5 pounds) at birth. The data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION

Head Start Participation is the number of Head Start enrollment slots divided by the estimated number of children ages three to four living in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold. Rates are expressed as percentages. Data on Head Start enrollment are from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Region VII. Data on children in poverty are based on poverty estimates (Children in Poverty indicator above) and population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Child Care Availability is the capacity of registered day care homes, licensed day care homes, group day care homes, child care centers, and preschools per one hundred children under age 13 in the population. The child care data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Population estimates for children under age 13 are from the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

High School Graduate Post-Secondary Education/Training is the percentage of the last year's high school graduating class that are enrolled in post-secondary education or training (four-year college or university, two-year college, other type of college or other non-college institution) five to six months after graduation. Data are from school districts' annual survey of graduates compiled by the Kansas Department of Education.

Births to Mothers with Less than a High School Degree is the percent of live births in the past calendar year that occur to women who have not received a high school degree as indicated on the birth certificate. Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Students Graduating High School is the percentage of ninth-grade public school students who graduated four years later. Rates are calculated by dividing the number of graduates by the sum of graduates and dropouts from grades nine through 12. Data are from the Kansas State Board of Education.

DATA NOTES AND SOURCES

EMOTIONAL WELL BEING

Teen Violent Deaths, Ages 15-19 (per 100,000 teens) is the number of deaths in a calendar year from homicides, suicides, and accidents to teens ages 15 through 19 per 100,000 teens of those ages. The data for teen deaths are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Teen population estimates are from the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Reported Child Abuse/Neglect Rate is the number of official child abuse/neglect reports per 100,000 children in the population under age 18. Data on child abuse/neglect reports are from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Data on the population of children under 18 are from estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Confirmed or Substantiated Child Abuse/Neglect Rate is the number of cases substantiated upon investigation of child abuse/neglect (child protective services worker determines that abuse or neglect occurred) per 100,000 children and youth under age 18. Data on child abuse/neglect reports are from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Data on the population of children under 18 are from estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Out-of-Home Placement Rate is the number of children and youth who are in SRS custody and in placement outside their family of origin per 1,000 children and youth age 18 and under. Data on children in placement are from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Data on the population of children under 18 are from estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL

Juvenile Court Filings is the number of court filings for juvenile offenders between July and June of a given fiscal year per 1,000 children and youth under the age of 18. Data on the number of filings are from the *Annual Report on the Courts of Kansas*, Office of Judicial Administration. Data on the population of children under 18 are from estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Youth Who Report Using Alcohol in the Past 30 Days is the percentage of youth in grades six, eight, ten, and 12 who indicated any use of alcohol in the 30 days prior to completing a survey on alcohol and other drug use. The percentage of children completing the survey in each county varies from year to year and may make the data unreliable. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center.

Youth Who Report Binge Drinking is the percentage of youth in grades six, eight, ten, and 12 who indicated taking five or more consecutive drinks on one occasion prior to completing a survey on alcohol and other drug use. The percentage of children completing the survey in each county varies from year to year and may make the data unreliable. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center.

Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs is the percentage of youth in grades six, eight, ten, and 12 responding to an annual survey who indicated any use of the following drugs: marijuana, cocaine, inhalants, or LSD. The percentage of children completing the survey in each county varies from year to year and may make the data unreliable. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Unemployment is the percent of the civilian labor force estimated to be unemployed. Annual estimates are provided by the Kansas Department of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services.

All other measures of demographic characteristics are taken from the 1990 Census of the Population. Median family income is the annual family income that half the families in Kansas exceed and half fall below. Families are two or more persons who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption and who live together as one household.

[1] The Population Estimates Program produces for counties each year: total population estimates and county estimates by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin. The release of total population estimates in the winter also includes demographic components of change. In the summer, the program releases the estimates by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin. The reference date for county population estimates is July 1. For more information, contact the Population Division's Statistical Information Staff at (301) 457-2422.